

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THERE is little for the Council to mention in the history of the Society during the last six months that is not contained in the reports of the Treasurer and the Librarian, which form a part of its report, excepting to present notices of deceased members, and offer the usual historical study.

It may be well, however, to call attention to the fact that a new iron stack has been placed in the lower hall of the building of the Society, and to state that that is the room which the late Mr. Salisbury thought might sometime be occupied by a public library for the city of Worcester.

It is an interesting commentary on the growth of that city, and on the increased importance of this institution, that the libraries of the two corporations have each of them 100,000 volumes, and that while the American Antiquarian Society will soon be pressed for room in which to store its books and manuscripts, the Free Public Library has none too much room for carrying on its work in the extensive and commodious pile of buildings put up for its accommodation by the municipality which it serves.

It is said that death loves a shining mark. The first of our number to die after the last meeting was Hon. Robert C. Winthrop. In the order of election he was our oldest member and had always been a warm friend of the Society. Most of the gentlemen present to-day recall the touching scene four years ago when Mr. Winthrop attended the semi-annual meeting of the Society in this place and, although suffering, as he said, from "an avalanche of infirmities," reminded us forcibly of his eloquent utterances of earlier years, when he spoke of his pleasant experiences as a young man when he used to sit at the table of his

father, our second president, by the side of distinguished members of this Society, now deceased, who were being entertained at dinner by their host on the occasions of the meetings in Boston. We thought then that Mr. Winthrop had probably made his last appearance in public, but only a year ago he again quietly entered this room at our semi-annual meeting and remained here a few minutes to show his interest in our proceedings and his love for the Society. By Mr. Winthrop's death Rev. George E. Ellis, D.D. became our senior member, but he, too, soon passed away, and we miss to-day a member of the Society who was almost always present at our meetings, and who enlivened and dignified them by his presence. Dr. Ellis, as is well known, was a member of the Council.

Somewhat later the Council lost another of its members by the death of Judge P. Emory Aldrich, one of the warmest friends of the Society, and one of the most constant and useful attendants at its meetings.

A pamphlet will soon be issued to record in permanent form the action of the Council on the death of these valued members.

We have recently learned of the death of our foreign member, William Noel Sainsbury, of the Public Record Office, London, who sent to us an interesting paper which was read at our meeting two years ago. Mr. Sainsbury's aid in consulting the documents in the Public Record Office was highly appreciated by Sparks and Bancroft, by Deane and Salisbury and other members of this Society now deceased; and his loss is keenly felt by Hale, Winsor, Hoar and other living members who had learned to appreciate his readiness to assist in making researches and his fulness and delicate accuracy of knowledge.

To the list of the dead must be added the names of another foreign member, Señor Joaquin Garcia Icazbalceta, of Mexico, and a domestic member, the highly respected George Olcott, of Charlestown, New Hampshire.

An obituary notice of Mr. Winthrop, by Charles C. Smith; of Judge Aldrich, by Frank P. Goulding; of Señor Icazbalceta, and of George Olcott, by President Salisbury, follow this report, and also a fitting notice of the life and services of Mr. Sainsbury, contributed by Hubert Hall, F. S. A., of London, England.

Robert Charles Winthrop was born in Boston, May 12, 1809, and died in that city, November 16, 1894. He was descended from an honored ancestry, in every generation closely associated with the growth and progress of Massachusetts or Connecticut. The first who bore the name on this side of the Atlantic was John Winthrop, who brought over the colony charter in 1630, and first united in one person the hitherto distinct offices of Governor of the Massachusetts Company and Governor of the colony established here. The eldest son of the Massachusetts Governor, John Winthrop, Jr., was one of the first settlers at Ipswich in this State, and for many years Governor of Connecticut, to which colony he rendered services scarcely inferior to those which the father rendered to Massachusetts. In the next generation, the eldest son of John Winthrop, Jr., Fitz-John Winthrop, a distinguished military officer, and for nine years Governor of Connecticut, died without male issue; but the second son, Wait Winthrop, who passed most of his life in Massachusetts, where he was both a major-general and a judge, and held other important offices, left a son, the fourth John Winthrop, commonly known by his designation as a Fellow of the Royal Society. He was a man of ability and great tenacity of purpose, and many years of his life were spent in England in the prosecution of an appeal to the King in Council, which involved the interpretation of the charter of Connecticut procured by his grandfather. His eldest surviving son, John Still Winthrop, who died in June, 1776, at the age of fifty-six, lived some time in England, some time in Connecticut, and

some time in Massachusetts ; but he did not take any prominent part in public affairs. John Still Winthrop's fifth son was Thomas Lindall Winthrop, Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts from 1826 to 1833, President of this Society from 1831 till his death in 1841, and also President of the Massachusetts Historical Society from 1835 to 1841. He married Elizabeth Temple, a granddaughter of James Bowdoin, an eminent statesman of the Revolutionary period and sometime Governor of Massachusetts. Bowdoin's public services were commemorated by his great-grandson, the subject of this notice, in an address at Bowdoin College, which was named for him. Robert Charles Winthrop was the youngest and for many years the sole surviving son of Thomas L. Winthrop.

He entered the Boston Latin School, then under the charge of the late Benjamin A. Gould, in 1821. Among the other boys who entered the school in that year, and who best fulfilled their early promise, were Charles Sumner, James Freeman Clarke and William Henry Channing ; but it is a noteworthy circumstance that neither of these three was Winthrop's classmate at Cambridge. Of the two young men who shared with him the highest honors at Harvard College, Charles C. Emerson entered the Latin School in 1817, and George S. Hillard in 1822. Both at the Latin School, where he received a Franklin medal, and at the University, where he acquired not less distinction, young Winthrop gave the promise which found realization in later years. When he graduated at Cambridge, in 1828, the subject of his oration was "Liberal Principles as affecting the Strength of Government." It was pronounced by competent judges the best of the Commencement parts. While in college he showed a marked fondness for music, which he ever afterward retained ; and he was a prominent performer in the college orchestra. In the rivalry for college honors between him and Hillard, Winthrop was more distinguished in the classics, and Hillard in mathematics.

After graduating, Mr. Winthrop was a law student for three years in the office of Daniel Webster; and in 1831, he was admitted to the bar. But apparently the law had few attractions for him, and at the age of twenty-six he became a member of the Massachusetts Legislature, as one of the representatives from Boston. Here he soon and easily won a conspicuous position; and in 1837, he was raised to the Speakership. This office he filled for three years, with a grace and dignity which afterward made his Speakership at Washington one of the most brilliant in the annals of Congress, and which he elsewhere exhibited in later years on many occasions.

In 1840, he was elected as the Representative of Boston in the House of Representatives at Washington, and this position he continued to hold for five successive terms. In 1847, he was chosen Speaker; but in 1849, he failed of a re-election, owing to the existence at that time of three parties in the House. The contest lasted for several weeks; and it was only after the majority-rule had been suspended that the struggle was terminated by the election of his principal competitor, Howell Cobb, who had a plurality of two. In the debates in the House of Representatives, Mr. Winthrop took an active part; and in his collected addresses and speeches are twenty speeches delivered by him while a member of the House. It was while Speaker that he gave the brilliant address on laying the corner-stone of the Washington Monument in 1848, to which his not less brilliant address on the completion of the monument in 1885, was the fitting complement.

In July, 1850, he was appointed to fill the vacancy in the Senate occasioned by Mr. Webster's transfer to the office of Secretary of State. It was a position of great difficulty; for Mr. Winthrop did not sympathize with the policy to which Mr. Webster was committed, and he was not prepared to separate from the great political party to which both belonged. A middle course was hard, almost

impossible, to follow ; but in the bitter and protracted contest which ensued when the Massachusetts Legislature met in January, 1851, Mr. Winthrop had the loyal support of all his old associates who were not ready to join in the formation of a new party. The coalition between the other two parties, the Democrats and the Free Soilers, could not be broken or sensibly weakened ; and after repeated ballots, extending over more than three months, Mr. Winthrop was finally defeated. On the 24th of April, the House of Representatives concurred with the Senate in the election of Mr. Sumner as senator, by the exact number of votes necessary for a choice.

In the autumn of the same year, Mr. Winthrop was the Whig candidate for Governor, receiving upward of sixty-four thousand votes out of a total of a little more than one hundred and thirty-seven thousand. There were three candidates in the field, and Mr. Winthrop led his chief competitor by more than twenty thousand votes. But at that time under the laws of Massachusetts, a majority of all the votes cast was needed for an election, and there was no choice by the people. Mr. Boutwell was re-elected by the Legislature. Only twice afterward was Mr. Winthrop a candidate for any political office. In the Presidential contest of 1852, he was placed at the head of the Whig electoral ticket ; and that ticket having received a considerably larger number of votes than were given for either of the other tickets, he was made President of the Electoral College, and helped to cast the vote of Massachusetts for General Scott. Twelve years later, in the Presidential contest of 1864, his name was placed first on the ticket nominated by the supporters of General McClellan, whose election he strongly advocated. A speech at New London, Conn., in October of that year, was the last of his political addresses.

After the overwhelming defeat of the McClellan ticket, Mr. Winthrop did not again participate in any party action,

and when he became head of the Peabody Education Fund in 1867, he withdrew wholly from political life, though he never lost interest in the broader relations of public affairs. He had felt the desertion of his early political friends keenly; but he was not a man to cherish animosities, and the wounds inflicted were healed before many years had passed. So long as the Whig party continued to exist he adhered to its fortunes. When that party was virtually dissolved, overtures were made to him to join other political organizations, which he declined and maintained to the last the position of an independent voter. On questions connected with the revenue and the currency he was in substantial accord with the Republican party, but on questions of a sectional character his sympathies were warmly with the Democrats.

When Mr. Winthrop's brief term in the Senate closed, he was not much over forty-one; but he did not fall into a life of elegant idleness, and his later years were not less useful or less honorable than those which had preceded them. He sought in what Milton calls "the still and quiet air of delightful studies" compensation for the frets and disappointments of a career which failed to satisfy. He had been elected a member of this Society in October, 1838, and of the Massachusetts Historical Society in October, 1839. At his death, his name stood first on the roll of each Society. In August, 1849, he was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In each of these organizations he was, until his death, an honored and valued associate. But it is with the Massachusetts Historical Society, of which he was President for thirty years, that his name is most closely connected. In the work of that Society he found during the later years of his life the chief field for his intellectual activity. As President, or as member of successive publishing committees, he made numerous contributions to its Proceedings and Collections; and among the most important of the

volumes published by it in recent years are those drawn from family papers furnished by him.

He was also for more than twenty-five years President and an active member of the Boston Provident Association; for three years, Chairman of the Overseers of the Poor of Boston; President of the Massachusetts Bible Society from 1878 to his death; for ten years, President of the Children's Hospital, in Boston; and from its inception to his death, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Peabody Education Fund, which he watched over with unwearied attention.

In his theological opinions, he was an Episcopalian of the liberal school; and for sixty years, he was an officer of Trinity Church, Boston, and for a quarter of a century, one of the Trustees of the Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge. A remarkable passage in his address at Plymouth in 1870, shows, however, that he was wholly free from all sectarian exclusiveness and bigotry.

In 1852, he published a volume of "Addresses and Speeches," which was followed in 1867, by a second volume; in 1879, by a third volume; and in 1886, by a fourth volume. These four volumes cover a period of more than fifty years, during which Mr. Winthrop was a public speaker, always welcome to any audience which he might address. Many of these addresses were separately printed at the time of their delivery; and taken together they form a collection of permanent historical interest and value. Among them are, the address on laying the corner-stone of the monument to Washington, in the city which bears his name (1848); the eulogy on James Bowdoin, already referred to (1849); a lecture on Archimedes and Franklin, before the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association (1853), which first suggested the erection of the statue of Franklin now in front of the City Hall, Boston; the address at the inauguration of this statue (1856); an introductory lecture on Massachusetts and its Early History,

in the course of Lowell Lectures, delivered by members of the Massachusetts Historical Society (1869); the address at Plymouth, on the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims (1870); an address at the dedication of the Brookline Town Hall (1873); the oration in Boston on the centennial anniversary of the Declaration of Independence (1876); the address before the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1880); an address at the dedication of the statue of Prescott, on Bunker Hill, and an address at Yorktown, on the centennial anniversary of the surrender of Cornwallis (1881); and the address on the completion of the Washington monument (1885).

In 1864, he published the first volume of his "Life and Letters of John Winthrop," bringing the narrative down to the embarkation of Winthrop and his company for Massachusetts. This volume was received with much favor by historical scholars, and was followed in 1867 by a second volume, completing the work. In the preparation of these volumes, Mr. Winthrop had the signal advantage of using for the first time an immense mass of unpublished papers which had remained in the custody of another branch of the family, living in Connecticut, and which had recently come into his possession. Among them were the original letters and documents which furnished the authority for many of the statements in Winthrop's Journal. In the year of his death, Mr. Winthrop printed, for private distribution, a delightful volume of "Reminiscences of Foreign Travel."

Mr. Winthrop received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Bowdoin College in 1849, from Kenyon College in 1851, and from Harvard University in 1855, and in one of his visits to Europe he received, in 1874, the same degree from the University of Cambridge, England. He was three times married. Two sons and a daughter survive.

It only remains to be added that Mr. Winthrop was well equipped for political life; his acquirements in various departments of knowledge were large; he was interested in

many measures and institutions for bettering the condition of the poor, the ignorant and the helpless; he was far-sighted in his plans for the organization and management of the great Peabody Trust; and he was always courteous and polished in the relations of private life; but it is as a consummate master of commemorative oratory that he will probably be longest remembered. He was the last of a group of men who carried the art of oratory to a degree of perfection which it had not previously reached in New England, or even in this country. He had a voice of great flexibility, which he managed skilfully; his manner was graceful and dignified; and in the special department to which his chief orations belong he had no superior. It was his fortune, after long intervals, to follow his great contemporaries, Daniel Webster and Edward Everett, with an address at Plymouth, on the anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims; and among the best remembered of Rufus Choate's occasional addresses is his discourse before the New England Society in New York, in commemoration of the same event. It is not easy to determine to which of these great addresses belongs the first place in their department of American literature; but no one who had the good fortune to hear Mr. Winthrop on the 21st of December, 1870, or who now reads his address for the first time, will assign to it a secondary rank. It marks, indeed, the highest level of Mr. Winthrop's oratory. Scarcely inferior to it are the address which he delivered in Boston on the centennial anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the address which he delivered at Yorktown on the centennial anniversary of the surrender of Cornwallis. These three orations, so diverse in character, but each so adequate to the occasion, would be sufficient in themselves to give him an undisputed position of the first eminence as an orator, even if there were not a score of other addresses of rare eloquence and power. Fortunately for us they do not stand alone. The four volumes of his "Addresses and Speeches"

are a fitting memorial of what he was and of what he did ; and so long as they shall continue to be read, his name will be held in honor. C. C. S.

Hon. Peleg Emory Aldrich died at his home in Worcester on March 14, 1895, in the eighty-second year of his age.

He was elected to membership in this Society in October, 1865.

Judge Aldrich was born in New Salem, Massachusetts, where he attended the public schools until he was sixteen years of age, and afterwards some terms in an academy, and then began teaching. While pursuing the vocation of teacher, he pushed his own studies on the lines usually followed in the *curricula* of the colleges at that time, and laid the foundation of a classical culture which finally became very extensive and accurate. He also began the study of law while still engaged in teaching, and in 1843 and 1844 was a member of the Harvard Law School, where he was graduated in the latter year with the degree of LL.B. He was admitted to the bar of Virginia in 1845, and to the Massachusetts bar in Hampden County in 1846 ; and began practice in Barre in this county in the same year, and continued there seven years, editing and publishing, a part of that time, the *Barre Patriot*. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1853, and in the same year was appointed District Attorney for the Middle District. He held this office nearly all the time until 1865, and it has never been filled with more conspicuous ability and fidelity. During all these years, after 1855, when he formed a partnership with the late Hon. Peter C. Bacon, he carried on a large and increasing civil practice. In 1873, he was appointed to the bench of the Superior Court, and actively and diligently performed the duties of that position to the last moment before his final brief illness.

As one of the original members of the State Board of Health, to which position he was appointed in 1870, Judge Aldrich took a special interest in the question of the use and legislative regulation of the sale of intoxicating liquors, and discussed the subject in one of the official reports of the board, with that thoroughness of historical research and scientific precision of statement and philosophic insight which characterized all his work.

He published a volume on "Equity Pleadings and Practice," in 1885, which took rank at once as authority upon the subjects it treats of. He held the office of mayor of Worcester in the year 1862, was a representative in the General Court in the years 1866 and 1867, and filled those positions with commanding ability and influence. The degree of LL.D. was conferred on him by Amherst College in the year 1886. No attempt can be made here to enumerate, in detail, the various public and quasi public positions he held, nor to characterize the service he rendered in them. The principal work of his life was done at the bar and on the bench, and in that sphere he shone with conspicuous success and brilliancy. Quite early in his professional career, Judge Aldrich took rank among the leaders of a bar then ornamented by the presence of several gentlemen of great learning, intellectual power, and splendor of reputation; and his own standing steadily advanced until at the time of his appointment to the bench, he held, beyond a doubt, a place in the profession second to few, if any, in the Commonwealth.

It would not be accurate to say that Judge Aldrich, before his elevation to the bench, was eminent as a technical lawyer, or that he ever acquired special skill in handling the subtleties of black-letter reasoning. His field was at *nisi prius* trials, and there his triumphs were numerous and memorable. He made a profounder study of law, as a science, during his judicial career than ever before, and both at the bar and on the bench, he was especially dis-

tinguished for the clearness and force of his logical processes. He never surprised by the originality or brilliancy of his views, and even less did he attempt novelty in the method of treatment. His path was over the ancient ways, and he relied for his effects upon the force of pure reason. Wit and humor were no part of his equipment. Whatever ornament of style he adopted (and he did not disdain ornament), was severely restrained and subordinated to the purpose of making the expression more clear and the argument more forcible. Few men possessed in greater degree that power of statement which amounts, in itself, to the most convincing argument.

He was to the end of his life a diligent and tireless student, and he had little patience with any preparation of a cause that was short of completeness. His dislike of mere superficiality, and particularly of any conscious sham and pretence, was apt to show itself in a brusqueness and severity of manners, which, perhaps, were sometimes founded in mistake, and did, it may be, an unintentional injustice. The perfect integrity and uprightness of his intentions as a magistrate were never open to question, and he rarely failed to see, and never failed to administer as he saw, exact justice between the parties. Judge Aldrich, ordinarily, wore an exterior of singular dignity and authority, which forbade any unwarrantable familiarity, but his friendships were warm and constant, and those who were admitted to his closer intimacies are prompt to testify to the strength of his attachments and the depth and purity of his affections.

In 1850, Judge Aldrich was married to Miss Sarah Woods, of Barre, who, with their five children, survives him.

F. P. G.

Señor Joaquin Garcia Icazbalceta was born in the city of Mexico, August 21, 1825. He was the youngest of ten children. His parents emigrated to Spain in 1829, and lived at Cadiz until 1836. Then they returned

to the Mexican Republic. Señor Icazbalceta was not connected with any of the higher schools after pursuing rudimentary studies; but learning several languages in his intervals of leisure from labor in his father's office, in the year 1846, he began to devote himself to the study of the history of Mexico. He added several chapters in an appendix to a correct and careful translation of Prescott's "Conquest of Peru" as his first essay as a writer. Soon after this, he became a contributor to *El Album Mexicano*, and also took part in the publication of *Diccionario Universal de Historia y Geografia*. Mexico: 1852-1856. 10 vols., quarto. His contributions to this work were very numerous, and the subjects which he treated were among the most important of the work.

Señor Icazbalceta set about collecting a library formed principally of ancient manuscripts and documents relating to the history of America, which finally became one of the most complete and abundant that exist, and in 1858, he published two volumes, quarto, *Colecion de Documentos para la Historia de Mexico*. Of this work, he was collector and copyist, and of much of the contents he was the possessor of the original documents. From this time onward, he was continually publishing pamphlets and books containing documents hitherto unpublished, with full introductory commentaries, and from 1880 until his death, a list of his publications would prove that he was one of the largest contributors to American, and particularly to Mexican, history the world has known. He was a member of many learned societies, and was especially active in works of charity and mercy. As officer and manager, he gave much time to an annual statement of the condition and work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which attracted much attention in England. He died November 26, 1894, of heart disease, and the funeral ceremonies were observed with a notable attendance of officials, *litterateurs*, scientists and representatives of charitable organizations.

Mexico realized that in the death of Señor Icazbalceta she had suffered a national loss.

He was elected a member of this Society in April, 1881. s. s.

George Olcott was born at Charlestown, New Hampshire, July 11, 1838, and was the eldest son of George Olcott, Esq., and Emily Ann (Silsby) Olcott, both of Charlestown, and the grandson of Simeon Olcott, from whom that branch is descended. Simeon Olcott was born in Bolton, Connecticut, in 1735, and graduated from Yale College in 1761, coming to Charlestown in 1764. He was the first lawyer who settled there, and the first who opened an office west of the Merrimac River. Growing rapidly in the favor and esteem of the people he was advanced rapidly to public office. He was often moderator of town meetings and was on the board of selectmen for a number of years. He was three years a member of the assembly at Portsmouth, became Judge of Probate, then Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, Trustee of Dartmouth College, afterwards Justice of the Superior Court, and United States Senator in 1801. His son George Olcott, the father of our associate, was born in 1785, graduated from Yale College, became a practising lawyer in Charlestown until the Connecticut River Bank was chartered in 1824, when he was made its first cashier, which office he held until his death in 1864. He did not care for public office but preferred to do his duty in a simple and unaffected manner as a private citizen. He was never willing to be called away for any length of time from his duties in his beloved bank. It was said by one who knew him well that "entire unselfishness was one of his most prominent characteristics." The qualities in the grandfather and father have been enumerated because they seem to account well by heredity for much that reappears in the character, culture, refinement and gentle manners of our departed friend.

Mr. George Olcott, our associate, was a man of fine presence, cultured and refined, with an inherited dignity and courteous grace that won for him friends and prominence, and he was for years greatly admired by the people of his town and State for his public spirit, his open-handed liberality and constant charities. After graduating from Norwich University in Vermont, he assisted his father in the Connecticut River Bank, and, in 1864, became cashier. He was also the Treasurer of the Cheshire Savings Bank. He served as bank officer for thirty-seven years and until his death. He also succeeded his father as town treasurer. He was fond of books and possessed a well selected library. He was an ardent freemason. In politics he was a staunch Republican, and was twice a Representative in the State Legislature.

He was one of the founders of St. Luke's parish (Episcopalian) in Charlestown, and served as warden, clerk and treasurer, and was its chief benefactor and most helpful worker. At the time of his death, Mr. Olcott had been treasurer of the Diocese of New Hampshire thirty-one years. He was deputy to the general convention, one of the trustees of the Diocese, a trustee of the Holderness school for boys, trustee and treasurer of the funds for the support of the Episcopate, and treasurer of the fund for the Bishop's house. No one in his community could be more trusted.

A tribute to his character occurs in an occasional sermon by Rev. T. W. Howard, pastor of the Unitarian Church in Charlestown. Speaking of two elegant volumes of the history of Charlestown, which Mr. Olcott had compiled, enlarged in quarto size, illustrated and extended, he writes "I was impressed, as I turned the leaves, with the love of the past which animated the painstaking of the collector of this material; a past, beautiful to him because its name was the town which was the centre of his affections. It was, evidently, to him a pious work in which he was engaged, to

preserve in form as beautiful and permanent as he could compass, the memorials of former times. Symbol and evidence are these volumes of the yearning intensity of the compiler, supported by a controlling sense of duty. He lived not for himself. Those who in coming generations should seek knowledge of the past, he would provide with carefully garnered and richly illustrated information. He loved the past and he lived beneficently in the present."

Mr. George Olcott was elected a member of this Society April 29, 1891, and his death occurred at Charlestown, N. H., April 10, 1895. Upon the day of his funeral, business was generally suspended, and for two hours the townspeople and friends from a distance passed silently to take a last look of him who in life had been to them an inspiration and a support.

s. s.

William Noel Sainsbury died on the 9th of March last at his residence, 151 Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, London, in his seventieth year.

Mr. Sainsbury was born at 35 Red Lion Square, Holborn, London, on the 7th of July, 1825. He was the third son of John and Mary Ann Sainsbury. On April 1st, 1848, young Sainsbury began his long career in the public service by accepting a nomination to the State Paper Office as extra temporary clerk. This position he resigned upon his appointment as an extra clerk on November 28th of the same year; and he was still serving in this capacity at the date of the amalgamation of the State Paper Office with the new Public Record Office in the year 1854.

In those days promotion came slowly for the staff, and Mr. Sainsbury did not reach the grade of a senior clerk until August, 1862. Then came another "block" and it was only in November, 1887, that he became an Assistant Keeper of the Public Records. In December, 1891, Mr. Sainsbury retired after a public service of more than forty years, but although his official connection with the Record

Department had ceased, he continued to edit the great Calendar of Colonial State Papers with which his name will ever be associated. In spite of failing health, he was usually to be found at his desk in a pleasant room overlooking the great Repository in Fetter Lane, surrounded with printed works of reference and with piles of the State Papers which he used and guarded with a care and reverence that were truly exemplary. Indeed there was nothing that distressed and angered him so much as to see the evidence of careless handling on the covers or margins of these priceless records. During these last years, Mr. Sainsbury had the advantage of the assistance of his daughter, Miss Ethel Sainsbury.

All who have carefully studied the series of Calendars of Colonial State Papers and especially those who have had the benefit of Mr. Sainsbury's personal assistance and advice in their researches, will easily understand the force of his saying, addressed to the members of the American Antiquarian Society in a paper presented by him at Boston little more than two years ago, "I have made a lifelong study of these Colonial Records" and "there is scarcely a writer of history in your Great Republic, whom, during the past forty years, I have not had the honor of assisting in a greater or less degree." Mr. Sainsbury always expressed the greatest admiration and respect for the historical work of the greatest of American historians, and he was justly proud of the task that was entrusted to him by Mr. Bancroft in the early days of his services at the State Paper Office, a task which was nothing less than the collection of all the evidences relating to the history of the American Colonies that were contained in the State Papers of the old Board of Trade. But, besides his association with the work of individual historians, from first to last, Mr. Sainsbury showed the deepest interest in the useful labors of the admirable Historical Societies which had sprung up, or at least had been largely developed during

the period of his own literary activity. The perpetuation of the original materials for the history of the primitive Colonies by the Governments of the modern States, was a work which he was never weary of advocating and encouraging: just as he was never weary of praising the Documentary Histories of New York, North Carolina, and other State publications as monuments of patient research and of sound scholarship. During the last two years of his life, he was actively engaged in superintending the transcription of the historical papers relating more especially to South Carolina, with whose flourishing Historical Society, and with the government of its neighbor State, he had for a long time past been in constant correspondence.

Naturally Mr. Sainsbury's name was frequently and gratefully mentioned in most modern works of research connected with the history of America and the West Indies. He was also an Honorary or Corresponding Member of most of the principal Historical Societies of the New World, and as long ago as 1867 he was elected a Foreign Member of the American Antiquarian Society.

The wide reputation which he thus enjoyed was not merely derived from his exceptional position as a custodian of the State Papers and as an official expert in their arrangement and contents, but mainly from the sound and scholarly work accomplished by himself as the editor of the Colonial Calendar in the Rolls Series. The first volume of this Calendar made its appearance in 1860. It was followed in 1862 by the first volume of the Calendar of Papers relating to the East Indies, China and Japan, which included, through the coöperation of the India Office, the "Court Books" of the old East India Company. Henceforth the Colonial Calendars were usually issued in alternate volumes, nine of which have been published to the present date.

In addition to the Colonial Calendar, Mr. Sainsbury published several valuable papers on Colonial history,

together with an historical narrative, published in 1870, based on the history of the West Indies, under the title of "Hearts of Oak." He was also the author of a life of Peter Paul Rubens, published in 1858, which still ranks as one of the best authorities on the subject.

Mr. Sainsbury was twice married: in 1849, to Emily Storrs, second daughter of Mr. Andrew Moore, by whom he had two sons and eight daughters, of whom all but three survive him. He married a second time in 1873, Henrietta Victoria, youngest daughter of Mr. John Hawkins, and widow of Mr. Alfred Crusher Anger, whom he survived several years.

It will be easily believed that Mr. Sainsbury was universally liked and respected by his friends and colleagues. He was, indeed, like most officials of the old school, punctilious and unbending in his adherence to official forms, but he could well recall the time when a Cabinet Minister was not permitted to examine State Papers relating to his own department without the authority of the Secretary of State. Yet his unflinching courtesy, and his unwearied zeal in the best interests of historical research will always endear his memory to all with whom he was brought in contact, and to all who still have those interests at heart. H. H.

In behalf of the Council,

SAMUEL S. GREEN.

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