

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE report of the Librarian, to be presented herewith, shows about the normal amount of accessions, both in numbers and in value. This is gratifying, but it is to be wished that more of the members would feel an interest in this simple method by which they could in an easy way contribute much to the Society. The trifles of a hundred and fifty, even those of seventy-five years ago are the treasures of to-day; and if members would send to the Librarian every bit of printed matter which comes into their hands, or even the most insignificant part of it, it would be received with hearty thanks. Let the members come up to the October meeting laden with literature. All express routes lead to Worcester.

At the last meeting of the Society, the Council reported, through the Treasurer, that a fund had been created, of which the income was to be applied to the purchase of literature relating to the Civil War of 1861-65. It occurred to the Council that the supply of this literature might in time become limited or even exhausted. Therefore, with the consent of the donors, the Council passed this vote:—

Resolved, that in accordance with the permission of the donors of the John and Eliza Bancroft Davis fund, the income thereof be expended for the purposes set forth in the gift, so long as such material can be procured; and that thereafter, when in any year enough material cannot be found or cannot be purchased at a reasonable price, the balance of the income may be expended for the general purposes of the library.

In building a new Court House, at Worcester, the County, through its agents, have encroached upon the land and easements of this Society. But, under the authority granted by the Society, deeds have recently been interchanged by which the boundary lines have been readjusted. This subject is treated at length in another place.

Since the last meeting death has taken from our number six members: Cushman Kellogg Davis, William Wirt Henry, Moses Coit Tyler, Mandell Creighton, Edward Elbridge Salisbury and William Stubbs. Some memorial of these gentlemen will be prepared in due time.

Mandell Creighton was born at Carlisle in 1843. He was educated first at Carlisle Grammar School, whence he won a King's Scholarship at Durham School. On leaving school he gained a "postmastership" at Merton College, Oxford, where he obtained a first class in classical moderations in 1864, followed by a first in *literae humaniores* and a second in law and modern history in 1866. In the same year he was elected to a fellowship at Merton, and he remained in Oxford as a tutor till 1875. In 1872 he married Louise, daughter of Robert von Glehn, a Russian merchant settled in London. In 1873 he was ordained priest; and in 1875 the college presented him to Embleton, a country living in Northumberland, which he held for nearly ten years. His chief object in retiring to the country was to gain more leisure for historical study, and it was there he began the greatest literary work of his life—"The History of the Papacy during the Reformation." The first and second volumes appeared in 1882 and at once placed him in the forefront of the historians of his time. In 1884 he was elected to the newly founded Dixie Professorship of Ecclesiastical History at Cambridge, which was combined with a fellowship at Emmanuel College. His life at Cambridge was full of activity—academical,

intellectual, professorial and social—and when Harvard College in Massachusetts—an offshoot of Emmanuel in the New World—celebrated its centenary in 1886, he was chosen by his college to represent it on the occasion.

It was in 1886 too, that he, with other leading historians, founded the *English Historical Review*, which he continued to edit until he was promoted to his first bishopric. To his academical preferment was subsequently added a canonry of Worcester Cathedral, to which he was nominated by the Crown in 1885. From there he was afterwards transferred to a canonry at Windsor, but, being almost immediately elevated to the episcopal bench, he never resided at Windsor.

In 1891 he was appointed to the see of Peterborough, and in 1896 he was selected by the Archbishop of Canterbury to attend the coronation of the Russian Emperor at Moscow, as representative of the English Church. In 1897 he was translated from Peterborough to London.

He died on January 14th, 1901, at the age of 57, leaving three sons and four daughters.

Two more volumes of the "History of the Papacy" were published whilst he was at Cambridge and a fifth shortly after he went to Peterborough, but the absorbing duties of episcopal life did not allow of the completion of his great work.

His chief other publications were a "Primer of Roman History," "The Age of Elizabeth," "The Life of Simon de Montfort," "A Primer of English History" and the "Life of Wolsey."

The above sketch will give some idea of his intellectual capacity and deep learning, but to these must be added a great personal charm. He was one of the most brilliant conversationalists of his time; his wit and knowledge of human nature made a lasting impression on all who heard him. In public he was a very ready speaker, with a vigorous and yet perfectly easy style; and in lecturing he had

the wonderful faculty of making the driest subject interesting and the most difficult clear. As a friend, he was faithful, wise and true. Perhaps the greatest testimony to his genius is shown by the effect which he contrived to make upon London during his comparatively brief episcopate. When he died, all felt that a great light had gone out, and that the world was poorer, sadder and weaker for his loss.

Edward Elbridge Salisbury, of eminent Massachusetts ancestry, and the only son of Deacon Josiah Salisbury (Harvard College, 1798) and Abigail (Breese) Salisbury, was born in Boston on April 6, 1814. His early training was given by his father, who died in 1826, after which his preparation for college was completed at the Boston Latin School, and he entered Yale in 1828. He was graduated with high honors in 1832, and his mother having followed him to New Haven he remained at his home there engaged in theological and other advanced studies until the spring of 1836, when he married his first cousin, Abigail, daughter of Edward Phillips, Esq., of Boston, and immediately after went to Europe for travel and further study. The interest he had taken in Hebrew now led him to adopt the Oriental languages as his special field, and under the teaching of DeSacy and Garcin de Tassy in Paris and Bopp in Berlin he made such progress that after his return to America the Yale Corporation took, in 1841, at the suggestion of his brother-in-law, Professor (afterwards President) Woolsey, the step of establishing a professorship of the Arabic and Sanskrit languages, to which he was appointed, without the expectation of pecuniary compensation.

Accepting this appointment, he went again to Europe in 1842, and spent a winter in Bonn in further study under Lassen. He delivered his inaugural address, on Arabic and Sanskrit Literature, at Yale, in August, 1843, and

retained his professorship until 1856. In the meantime his pupil, Mr. William D. Whitney, had been appointed in 1854 Professor of Sanskrit, at the desire of Mr. Salisbury, who made a permanent provision (increased at a later date) for the endowment of the chair. After his retirement he continued to reside in New Haven, retaining ever a deep interest in everything affecting the progress of the University, and while shrinking always from public notoriety affording a rare example of cultivated scholarship and high-bred courtesy to the constantly narrowing circle of those warm friends who knew and appreciated his worth.

The American Oriental Society had been organized in 1842, and Professor Salisbury soon after his entrance on his professorship became its Corresponding Secretary, and until 1857 bore the chief burden of securing and editing contributions for the Society's *Journal* and of providing for the expense of their publication. He also accepted reluctantly the office of President of the Society in 1863, but resigned in 1866. His attainments in scholarship were duly recognized by election to various other learned societies, as well as by the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Yale College in 1869 and from Harvard in 1886. He was made a member of this Society in October, 1861, and stood at the time of his death as the seventh in order on our roll. His only contribution to our publications is a letter of four pages, printed in the *Proceedings* for October, 1871, which describes minutely the copy in the British Museum of the original edition of Addison's *Spectator*. A year later his gift of a similar copy to our Library is recorded.

Besides his *Inaugural Discourse* and other occasional pamphlets, he published a number of valuable articles in the *Journal of the Oriental Society* and the *New Englander*; and in later life he gave much time and attention to researches in family history, and was lavish in expendi-

ture to the same end. He printed privately in 1885 a sumptuous volume of *Family Memorials*, dealing exhaustively with the various branches of his ancestry; and subsequently in coöperation with his wife he prepared a similar series, extending to five quarto volumes, of *Family Histories and Genealogies*, relating to her lines of descent, which were printed in 1882.

Professor Salisbury was a distinguished benefactor of Yale University, and the value of some of his more important gifts was enhanced by the special timeliness of their bestowal. His securing the retention at New Haven of Professor Whitney has been mentioned, besides which he had the high satisfaction of determining by a similar gift the acceptance by the late Professor James D. Dana of his call to a Professorship at Yale in 1850. He was the largest donor to the College Library building erected in 1842-43, and as one of the building committee had a prominent part in determining the plan of the structure. In 1870 he gave to the library what was up to that time the largest single accession to its treasures, his exceedingly valuable collection of Oriental books and manuscripts, to which to the end of his life he continued to make important additions. He was also a generous donor to the Theological Department and to the School of the Fine Arts—a department in which his cultivated æsthetic tastes led him to take the deepest interest.

The wife of his youth died in 1869, and his only child, a daughter, in 1875. In November, 1871, he married Miss Evelyn MacCurdy, the only child of Judge Charles J. MacCurdy (Yale Coll., 1817), of Lyme, Connecticut, who survives him.

He died at his home in New Haven, after a short illness, on February 5, 1901, in his 87th year.

F. B. D.

For the Council,

CHARLES A. CHASE.

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