

NATHANIEL PAINE.

By the death of our associate, Mr. Nathaniel Paine, this Society and the community at large have lost a man of unusual culture, industry and integrity.

Born in Worcester in the year 1832, he was educated in the public schools of his native town. This was a fortunate period, for his boyhood was passed during the years of the Centre District School, the Latin School for Boys under Charles Thurber and Elbridge Smith, and the first High School. These institutions were planned and developed by such men as Aaron Bancroft, Levi Lincoln, Samuel M. Burnside, John S. C. Abbott, and others of similar foresight and ability; so that the education of Mr. Paine—common-school though it was—gave him a foundation rarely excelled in our modern system.

There was another and more personal source of inspiration toward the fields of culture and learning vouchsafed to this boy. Edward Everett Hale spent the first years of his ministry, from 1846 to 1856, in Worcester, and a large share of his effort was then, and in after years continued to be, expended in winning the confidence of boys and young men, and in directing their efforts to intellectual and civic betterment. One of these boys was Nathaniel Paine, and the affection and interest which Mr. Hale then inspired had a large influence in the development of his character and the direction of his energies. Not only did this influence affect his early years, but this acquaintance and companionship continued through the sixty years which followed, serving as a constant inspiration and source of happiness.

Another personal help in his more mature years was the warm friendship and constant support of Senator Hoar, whose rich experience and strong personality gave so much of strength and courage to all who were brought into contact with him. The years of his early and later life were thus enriched and

broadened by these two men, with whom he continued in contact through the various literary societies in which they were associated.

The collecting instinct in the early years of childhood is well nigh universal, but after the adolescent period it is often lost in the necessary struggle for subsistence. This instinct in Mr. Paine became a life-long habit, and his collections of stamps, coins, medals and photographs, besides being of considerable value in themselves, brought him into contact with kindred minds through the societies which made such collections their object.

An avocation growing out of this was the extra-illustration of his books, a large number of which were enriched with portraits, prints, autograph letters, maps and other sources of illumination of the text in these volumes. Copies of his own writings also were thus treated; many of the prints containing pencil notes to correct and explain them and when other means of illustration were not available his camera was brought into use. In addition to this, his pen and brush were employed to illuminate plates and title-pages needed for the volumes thus enlarged. Many of these books are now on our shelves, by his gift, and contain much of local and antiquarian value. This work was of importance to him, as avocations so often are, because of the acquaintances and personal friendships which he gained through the new channels thus opened. During a visit made by the Club of Odd Volumes to the library of Mr. J. P. Morgan, by his invitation, the writer heard Mr. Paine express the wish to see his rare set of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, and examine the five signatures which his own set lacked. Mr. Morgan, with the true spirit of the collector, left the work in which he was engaged and these two enthusiasts were at once oblivious of all else but their common interest in their beloved hobby. These activities and the literary and historical studies of which they were the outcome

brought Mr. Paine into the membership of many historical societies and won for him the well-deserved honorary degree of A. M. which was bestowed on him in 1898 by Harvard University.

Mr. Paine was not unmindful of the teaching by Mr. Hale of civic betterment, and his share in the efforts made for the increased literary and educational usefulness of Worcester is seen in his work in the Worcester Natural History Society, of which he was one of the founders and for several years its President. He was a director of the Free Public Library and a trustee of the Worcester Horticultural Society, being treasurer of the latter for twenty-six years. He was one of the founders of the Art Society in Worcester and a trustee of the Art Museum until his death. These are a few of the varied activities, outside of his business hours, of this man of energy and industry.

At the age of fifteen he entered a store as caretaker and on the establishment of the Mechanics Bank at the corner of Main and George Streets, he became its first office boy and three years later was appointed a teller. In 1854 he was chosen assistant-cashier of the newly formed City Bank, and cashier in 1857, which office he held until elected president in 1898. In 1903 the City Bank was absorbed into the Worcester Trust Company, and he held the office of a vice-president in this institution until his retirement from active business in 1909. Mr. Paine's career as a banker began in the year 1848, when Worcester became a city with a population of 15,000, and a valuation of about nine millions, and ended when the growth of the city showed a population of 129,000, and its financial development gave a valuation of over 129 millions. Of that growth he was not unmindful, and he did his full share in that development from year to year.

On June 14, 1865, Mr. Paine married Susan M. Barnes, of New Haven, Conn., who survives him.

We have, in a general way, followed the progress in culture of Mr. Paine and noted some of its sources; we have seen some of the evidences of his varied activities and his untiring industry; and we have guessed why he was called a man of integrity. But the real man, the reason why he had a host of friends can never be ascertained by any effort of analysis. A mere catalogue of his virtues would poorly express the true character of the man himself. His unselfishness, his cordial welcome at all times to his friends, and his willingness to share his knowledge and his labor for their benefit were but a part of his charm.

Mr. Paine was for 66 years a member of this Society, for 44 years its treasurer and 60 years a member of the Council. He wrote for the Society a number of important papers, a list of which is appended, and when his life came to a close he evidenced the deep affection he had for the Society and its objects by substantial gifts from his library and by making the Society his residuary legatee.

List of Mr. Paine's Contributions to the Publications of the American Antiquarian Society.

- 1860, Oct. Report on the American Coins and Tokens in the Cabinet of the Society.
- 1866, Apr. Remarks on the Early Paper Currency of Massachusetts.
- 1873, Apr. Brief notice of the library of the Society.
- 1876, Apr. Account of the Society, with list of its publications, for the International Exposition.
- 1880, Apr. Lists of Books received by the Society from the sale of the first and second parts of the Brinley Library, with catalogue of the Mather publications previously in the Society's Library.
- 1881, Apr. Officers of the American Antiquarian Society, from 1812 to 1881, with list of members in 1881.
- 1881, Apr. Revolutionary Orderly Books, with notices and abstracts.
- 1885, Apr. Biographical notice of Rear Admiral Geo. H. Preble.
- 1892, Apr. Necrology of the American Antiquarian Society.
- 1893, Apr. Remarks on reproducing early newspapers.
- 1895, Oct. List of early American Imprints in the library of the Society.
- 1897, Apr. List of early American Broadsides, 1680 to 1800, belonging to the Society, with notes.
- 1901. Diary of Christopher C. Baldwin, with introduction and notes.
- 1903, Apr. Remarks on the Manuscripts in the library of the Society.

1905. Contents of the Proceedings of the Society, from 1880 to 1903, with list of reprints.

1906, Apr. Early American Engravings and the Cambridge Press imprints, 1640 to 1690, in the library.

Reports as Treasurer of the American Antiquarian Society from 1863 to 1907, semi-annually until 1895, then annually.

C. L. N.

ELIAS HARLOW RUSSELL.

Elias Harlow Russell was born in Sanbornton, N. H., December 27, 1836, the son of Elias and Comfort (Randlet) Russell, and died in that town April 3, 1917. He was educated in the Woodman Academy at Sanbornton, the New Hampshire Literary Institution, the New England Normal Institute at Lancaster, N. H., and took short courses at the Dartmouth Medical School and the Harvard Divinity School. In 1853 while still a student he began teaching and that became his life profession. He taught in the Highland Military Academy and several smaller private schools in Worcester, Mass., was principal of the Nichols Academy in Dudley, Mass., and of the LeRoy Academy at LeRoy, N. Y. In 1874 he took charge of the new State Normal School in Worcester, where he remained during his active life. He found a new empty building without organization or faculty or scholars. He left a school without a superior in the land. He was a pioneer in child study and the systematic teaching of children, was original in his methods, which have been widely followed, and as a teacher he became a recognized authority. Many offers of other positions were made to him, including that of the presidency of the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst, a professorship at the State Normal School at Providence, a professorship at the Swain Free School at New Bedford, Mass., and the presidency of the Collegiate Department of Clark University at Worcester, but he always considered it his duty to remain with the Normal School at Worcester.

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