

meeting in 1902; Obituary Sketch of Dr. Edward Everett Hale at the October meeting in 1909.

S. U.

HERBERT LEVI OSGOOD

Herbert Levi Osgood, who died on September 11, 1918, was born at Canton, Me., was prepared for college at Wilton Academy, and was graduated with honors from Amherst in 1877. After teaching two years at Worcester Academy he took post-graduate courses at Yale and Amherst, and in 1880 received the A.M. degree from the latter institution. In 1881 he matriculated in the University of Berlin. On returning to America he taught from 1883 to 1889 in the Boys' High School, Brooklyn, during part of which time he studied at Columbia, chiefly under Burgess, and in 1888 took the Ph.D. degree, with a dissertation on "Socialism and Anarchism: Rodbertus and Proudhon."

In 1890 he was called to Columbia as adjunct professor of history, and in 1896 was given the professorship which he held until the time of his death. He had been much influenced by the work of Leopold von Ranke, and, like that historian, tracing the course of political development, rigorously followed his maxim to seek out the "most genuine immediate documents," and emulated the brevity and clarity of his style. While still a graduate he dedicated himself to the study of the institutional beginnings of the United States. In 1887 he contributed his first essay on "England and the Colonies" to the "Political Science Quarterly," of which he subsequently became an editor and in which he published many articles and scores of reviews. After 1895, he read several papers before the American Historical Association, establishing his classification of the American Colonies. In 1904 he produced the first two volumes of the "American Colonies in the Seventeenth Century," followed

by a third in 1907. This work won him the Loubat prize and the degree of LL.D. from Amherst. Three sojourns for study in England (1889-'90, 1908-'09, 1914) enabled him to consider fairly the imperial side of the development of the English settlements, and the material gained, together with that gathered by extended researches in every one of the thirteen original states, constituted the basis for four volumes on the "American Colonies in the Eighteenth Century," which he has left almost ready for the press. His article in the "Encyclopedia Britannica" (11th Edition), vol. xxvii, pp. 633-684, sets forth many of his conclusions.

Besides his contribution to the literature of American history, should be mentioned that to archival science. He had been impressed with the utility of von Sybel's service in the orderly arrangement of the public papers of Prussia, and with this ideal of thoroughness, his elaborate report on the condition of the archives of New York, published in 1901, set a model for other investigations conducted by the Public Archives Commission of the American Historical Association, and influenced legislation in several states. He long served as a member of the commission and was for a time its chairman. He edited the eight volumes of the minutes of the common council of New York, as published in 1905, and was a member of the committee to publish the subsequent volumes now appearing. He arranged for and superintended the publication of the records of the Virginia Company by the Library of Congress in 1906. As a teacher he developed important seminars in European, English and American history, conceived and supervised the production of many valuable dissertations, and sent forth many scholars well-trained and zealous. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Caroline A. Symonds Osgood, two sons and a daughter.

His works are his monument.

D. R. FOX.

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