

before the Old Residents' Historical Association of Lowell;" "An Account of the Library of the Massachusetts Historical Society;" a "List of the Early American Imprints" in the library of that society; and "An Historical Sketch of Groton, 1655-1890."

In May, 1896, the University of Nashville conferred on Doctor Green the honorary degree of LL.D.

He was for nineteen years first vice-president of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and librarian at the time of his death. He was a constant attendant at the meetings, even when his physical disability was so great that he was brought into the room in a wheel-chair, which was always placed on the left of the presiding officer. Doctor Green was elected a member of this Society in 1865, was a member of the council from 1874 until 1904, when he was elected vice-president. The last meeting of the council that he attended was in 1911.

Doctor Green's life was most unusual, exhibiting in a high degree great industry, a prodigious capacity for work, and conspicuous service in many varied fields of activity. He will long remain in the memory of his associates, who will miss the companionship, now ended, of so many years.

C. G. W.

### SAMUEL SWETT GREEN

Samuel Swett Green, son of James and Elizabeth (Swett) Green of Worcester, was descended in the eighth generation from Thomas Green, who settled in Malden about the middle of the seventeenth century. He was born in Worcester, February 20, 1837, and died there December 28, 1918. Entering Harvard College at the age of seventeen, he was graduated in the Class of 1858, and immediately entered the Harvard Divinity School, but his health failing he was obliged to give up study temporarily, and took a sea

voyage on a sailing vessel to the Levant, visiting Smyrna and Constantinople. Returning home he re-entered the Divinity School in September, 1861, and was graduated in 1864, intending to become a Unitarian minister. Partly by reason of his health and partly because he found that his religious views were too advanced for the times, he abandoned preaching and entered the Mechanics National Bank as bookkeeper in December, 1864. The following year he was made teller in the Worcester National Bank, which position he held until May, 1868, and in January, 1871, he was called to his life work as librarian of the Worcester Free Public Library, in which position he made for himself and the library a world wide reputation for progress and efficiency.

This was due largely to the simple application of the principle that books are made for the use of those desiring information and instruction, and that all such are to have every facility for study supplied to them. The old idea that a librarian's duties should be principally confined to the safe preservation of his books was no longer to rule. Students were welcomed, the whole working force of the library was at their service, and desired books, if not in the library were either purchased or borrowed. Particular attention was paid to the requirements of young people, and both the teachers and the students of the public and private schools of the city, were encouraged in their use of the library. The success accompanying this method of library work attracted general attention among educators as well as librarians, and the example set in Worcester was followed by most libraries in this country and by several in Europe.

In 1890 Mr. Green was appointed an original member of the Free Public Library Commission of this Commonwealth, and held the office by successive appointments until 1909. He was one of the founders of the American Library Association, of which he was vice-president 1887-1889 and 1892-1893, and president

in 1891; founder and first vice-president of the Massachusetts Library Club; member of the American Library Institute; and honorary fellow of the Library Association of the United Kingdom. He was delegate to the International Congress of Librarians at London in 1877 and a member of its council, vice-president of a similar congress in 1897, and in 1893 presided over the World's Congress of Librarians at Chicago.

He was a member of many historical societies and associations, the most important being the Royal Historical Society, the American Historical Association, the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the American Social Science Association, and the Wisconsin Historical Society. He was trustee of Leicester Academy and belonged to several social clubs both in Boston and Worcester.

He was elected to membership in this society in April, 1880, and in 1883 was made a member of the Council of which he continued to be a member until a month before his death. During all of this long period he was, until the last few years when advancing age and failing eyesight impaired his activities, a constant attendant of the meetings of the Society, a frequent participant in its debates and contributor to its Proceedings, and a valued and useful member of the Council. He prepared several Council reports, many memoirs and obituary notices of deceased members, and eight papers for the Proceedings, the most important subjects treated by him being:—"Gleanings from the Sources of the History of the Second Parish, Worcester;" "The Use of the Voluntary System in the Maintenance of Ministers in the Colonies of Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay;" "The Scotch-Irish in America;" and "The Craigie House, Cambridge, during its Occupancy by Andrew Craigie and his Widow." In connection with his library work he published: "Libraries and Schools;"

“Library Aids;” and “The Public Library Movement in the United States, 1853-1893.”

In 1909, his eyesight failing he retired from active work at the library and was made librarian emeritus. He devoted the remainder of his life to study, especially interesting himself in British archæology, but continuing his interest in all the lines which had previously engaged his attention and making a daily visit to the library until a few months before his death.

W. L.

#### HENRY AINSWORTH PARKER

Henry Ainsworth Parker was born in Philadelphia, October, 19, 1841, the son of William Ainsworth and Mary (Iddings) Parker. He was graduated from Harvard with the Class of 1864 and then entered the General Theological Seminary in New York. After four years spent in preparing for the ministry and in tutoring private pupils, he took charge of the Parish of St. Luke at Philadelphia in 1871. In 1875 he became rector of Christ Church at North Conway, N. H., where he remained until 1886. He then removed to Cambridge, Mass., where he lived until his death, holding religious service in various places as his help was required, and pursuing studies in theology and history. He was married December 6, 1870, to Mary, daughter of Rev. Samuel Seabury of New York, and had five children. His death occurred February 17, 1919.

Rev. Mr. Parker was much interested in historical research and was an occasional contributor to the Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, of which he was one of the earliest members. He was elected to the Antiquarian Society in 1910, and showed his interest by his frequent attendance at the meetings and by the gift of historical books and pamphlets to the Library.

C. S. B.

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.