

## JOSEPH FLORIMOND LOUBAT

Joseph Florimond Loubat was born at New York, January 21, 1831, the son of Joseph Alphonse and Susan Gaillard Loubat, and died in Paris, March 1, 1927. He was graduated from the University of France in 1847, and in 1869 received the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Jena. He lived for many years in New York, although for the last thirty years of his life he resided in Paris. His title of Duc de Loubat was conferred by the Pope in 1893. He inherited a large fortune which he spent liberally in historical publication and in support of learned institutions. In 1898 he presented to Columbia University property worth somewhat over \$1,000,000, with the condition that he should receive an annuity of \$60,000 for the remainder of his life. This generous gift turned out somewhat differently than expected, as the property declined in value and the Duke lived to the remarkable age of ninety-six, with the result that the University eventually received a comparatively small amount. He was otherwise a liberal benefactor to Columbia, especially in the field of American archaeology.

His most important historical work was the "Medallic History of the United States," two volumes, 1878. He read several papers before learned societies and aided frequently in the publication of early manuscripts relating to American linguistics. He was a member of the New York and Massachusetts Historical Societies, the American Geographical Society, the American Numismatic Society and the Hispanic Society of America. He was a member also of many learned societies abroad and was given the cross of the Legion of Honor. Nearly all his numerous honors are recorded in two biographical volumes issued in 1894 and 1912. He was elected to resident membership in this Society in 1897, and was always so listed, although he lived abroad most of his life. He was a frequent donor to the Society's library, especially in the field of Mexican linguistics.

C. S. B.

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