

fitting for college at Adams Academy in Quincy. He entered Harvard with the Class of 1887, but remained in college less than three years and then attended law school for one year. After leaving college, he followed his father's career by entering the newspaper business, becoming reporter and later city editor of the *Worcester Evening Gazette*. In 1895 he became treasurer of the Worcester Thread Company and in 1903 joined with other Worcester men in forming the Crompton-Thayer Loom Company. After this business was sold out in 1907, Mr. Scofield devoted most of the remainder of his life to writing and to sculpture. He studied for several years under the well known sculptor, Gutzon Borglum and maintained a studio on Front Street. He published two books of poems, "Verses" in 1914 and "A Forgotten Idyll" in 1921. Much of his best poetry was contributed to Harvard Class reunions and to the local newspapers, especially during the period of the late War. He was a member of many local organizations where his presence was always sought for his genial companionship and his gift as a ready and witty speaker. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1927, and made frequent gifts of material to the Library. His will left trusts funds of nearly one million dollars, eventually to benefit several Worcester institutions. He was married, December 31, 1919, to Myrtis S. Sigourney Harrington (Mrs. Gilbert H. Harrington), who survived him.

C. S. B.

JUSTIN HARVEY SMITH

Justin Harvey Smith was born in Boscawen, N. H., January 13, 1857 and died in New York, March 21, 1930. He was the son of the Rev. Ambrose and Cynthia Maria (Egerton) Smith. He was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1877 with the degree of

A.B., receiving the degree of A.M. in 1881. After a short career at Union Theological Seminary in 1879-1881, he entered the publishing business, in which he continued until 1898, being a member of the firm of Ginn & Company in charge of the editorial department from 1890 to 1898. Always interested in history, he joined the faculty of Dartmouth College, serving as professor of modern history from 1899 to 1908. He then retired from teaching to pursue studies in historical writing and to indulge in travel. He was much interested in the activities of the American Historical Association, serving in 1914 as a member of the advisory committee on the publication of Revolutionary records, and from 1917 to 1923 as chairman of the historical manuscripts commission. He received the degree of LL.D. from Norwich University in 1908 and of Litt.D. from Dartmouth in 1920. He was unmarried.

Professor Smith wrote several books of lasting historical value, among them "Troubadors at Home," 1899; "Arnold's March from Cambridge to Québec," 1903; "Our Struggle for the Fourteenth Colony," 1907; "The Annexation of Texas," 1911; and "The War with Mexico," 1919, which won for him in 1920 the Pulitzer prize of \$2000 from Columbia University and the first Loubat prize of \$1000 in 1923 for the best book of the kind published during the previous five years. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1909. He attended many of its meetings and gave frequently to its funds. In 1912 he served as a member of a committee on the future welfare of the Society and made to the Council suggestions of much value. In April 1914 he contributed to the Proceedings an article on "Poinsett's Career in Mexico" and in October 1927 he read a paper on "General Grant's Opinion on the War with Mexico." In 1928 he presented to the Library a large collection of transcripts from the Mexican archives relating to the war between the United States and Mexico. He was a

good friend to the Society, some of whose officers knew him intimately and appreciated his breadth of knowledge, his genial character and his unfailing spirit of co-operation.

C. S. B.

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

William Howard Taft, twenty-seventh President of the United States, and since 1912 a member of this Society, died in Washington on March 8, 1930. The facts of his life are so well known that only the briefest outline of his career will be here attempted. He was born at Cincinnati, September 15, 1857, the son of Attorney-General Alphonso and Louisa Maria (Torrey) Taft. He was graduated from Yale in 1878 with the degree of A.B. and from the Cincinnati Law School with the degree of LL.B. He immediately entered upon the study of the law and after holding various local appointments, became Judge of the Superior Court at Cincinnati in 1887. He was appointed Solicitor-General of the United States in 1890, United States Circuit Judge in 1892, President of the United States Philippine Commission in 1900, Governor of the Philippine Islands in 1901, Secretary of War in 1904, and elected President of the United States in 1908. After the splitting of the Republican party in 1912 and his subsequent defeat for re-election, he was elected Professor of Law at Yale in 1913, which position he held until 1921. In the latter year he was chosen Chief Justice of the United States, which position he retained until his death.

Mr. Taft was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in October 1912, in the year when the Society was celebrating its one hundredth anniversary. As President of the United States, he was the leading speaker at the Centennial Dinner, held at the Worcester Club on the evening of October 16,

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