

cultural subjects and was always entertaining in conversation and reminiscence. Dr. Hollis married August 22, 1894, Caroline Lorman of Detroit, who died in 1925. He left four children, Janette R., Oliver Nelson, Elinor and Carolyn.

C. S. B.

### SAMUEL LYMAN MUNSON

Samuel Lyman Munson, for eight years a member of the Council of this Society, died at Albany, May 19, 1930. He was born at Huntington, Mass., June 6, 1844, the son of Garry and Harriet (Lyman) Munson. After an education obtained at Williston Seminary and at the Bryant and Stratton Commercial School at Albany, he entered into business life, traveling chiefly in the West for an Albany firm. In 1867 he joined with two other men in the establishment of a linen collar manufactory, but two years later bought out his partners and assumed the sole proprietorship. From this small beginning he built up one of the largest businesses in Albany, branching out into the manufacture of many kinds of linen goods and eventually employing over one thousand hands. Mr. Munson was actively connected with many organizations in Albany. He was president of the Home Savings Bank, trustee of the Memorial Hospital, director of the Chamber of Commerce, regent of the Philip Livingston chapter of the Sons of the Revolution, and president of the Masonic Veterans Association. In 1900 he served as a Republican Presidential elector. He married Susan Babcock Hopkins of Albany, May 21, 1868, and had seven children. He was survived by his widow, two daughters, Mrs. Robert H. Lyman, and Mrs. John B. Benson, and one son, Robert Munson.

Mr. Munson was a man of many varied interests. He was fond of travel and had journeyed to almost all the countries in the world. Possessing a remarkable memory, he was entertaining in reminiscences of statesmen, authors, and scientists whom he had met

in his travels and to whom his friendly nature always appealed. He was an assiduous collector of books, and his private library was one of the best in Albany. To this Society, however, and in fact fairly well throughout the country, he was known as a collector of almanacs. His first interest in this subject arose from a chance purchase of a remarkable collection of early English almanacs which he made from the late George E. Littlefield. Rapidly he began to gather the almanacs of all countries, finally specializing in almanacs published in the United States. After about fifteen years of collecting, by 1924, he had gathered over ten thousand almanacs, a collection which in size was exceeded only by that owned by this Society. In 1925 he generously decided to incorporate his collection with ours, presenting to the Society every almanac which we needed to complete or improve our collection. As a result the Library received fifty-two hundred almanacs, enabling it to show in almost unbroken files the English publications from early in the seventeenth century to 1783, and the American almanacs from the middle of the seventeenth century down to the present day. He continued his interest, adding occasional issues to fill out the files, until today, with our own recent purchases, the collection numbers over twenty thousand almanacs, easily the largest of American collections.

Mr. Munson was elected to the Society in 1918. In 1922 he was elected a member of the Council, and scarcely ever did he miss a meeting, timing his trips abroad and to the South so as to be present. He was a generous friend to the Society, contributing \$1000 to the endowment in 1920, \$1000 to the Building Fund in 1924, and frequently giving smaller sums to aid in special purchases. In his will he bequeathed to the Society the sum of \$10,000. Few members from outside of New England have been so keenly interested in the Society and its purposes, and no member could be more highly regarded or more sorely missed.

C. S. B.

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