

President of Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Secretary of the Navy Daniels enumerated his notable services during the War, which he said constituted "one of the finest chapters of naval achievement in its whole history." In 1930 in recognition of his services he was promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral.

At the Polytechnic Institute his technical and administrative ability was soon manifested. New buildings were constructed, the faculty was strengthened, the courses were enlarged, and a new spirit pervaded the institution as a result of his personality and his high quality of leadership. At the time of his death he was beginning upon a new program of enlargement, destined even further to increase the prestige of the Institute in the field of education.

Admiral Earle, upon his return to his native Worcester, became connected with several local societies and clubs, taking an active interest in those which made for civic betterment. To the American Antiquarian Society he was elected a member in 1927, and was a constant attendant at the meetings. He married, September 29, 1898, Janet Turner Schenck, daughter of Caspar Schenck, U.S.N., by whom he was survived, with two children, Ralph Earle, Jr., and Mary Janet Hines.

C. S. B.

WILLIAM MacDONALD

William MacDonald, historian and journalist, died in New York City, December 15, 1938. He was born at Providence, R. I., July 31, 1863, the son of Rev. William and Frances (Jordan) MacDonald. He prepared for college at the Newton High School and entered Harvard, from which he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1892. He then taught history and economics at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1892-1893, was professor of history and political science at Bowdoin College from 1893 to 1901, and professor of history at Brown University from 1901 to 1917, with courses primarily in American history. After leaving Brown, he lectured on history and government for occasional years at the University of California and

Yale, but for the last twenty years of his life gave most of his time to editorial and literary work. From 1918 to 1920 he was associate editor of the *Nation*, spending much of his time abroad, writing for his paper articles on post-war conditions in Europe. Upon his return to New York, he became a free lance writer, principally for the *New York Herald*, the *New York Times*, the *Saturday Review of Literature*, the *Nation*, the *Freeman* and the *Commercial and Financial Chronicle*.

During his long career, Professor MacDonald made many contributions to American historical literature. Of the several books of which he was the author, the most noteworthy were "Jacksonian Democracy" 1905, "From Jefferson to Lincoln" 1913, and "Three Centuries of American Democracy" 1923. But the student of American history finds even of greater value three volumes of documentary source books which with exceptional care and discrimination he edited: "Select Documents of the History of the United States" 1898, "Select Charters of American History" 1899, and "Select Statutes of the History of the United States" 1903. He wrote clearly, both with force and judgment, and his wide knowledge of social and economic conditions gave a comprehensiveness to all that he wrote or edited.

Professor MacDonald received the honorary degrees of Ph.D. from Union in 1895 and LL.D. from the University of New Brunswick in 1900. He was interested in the affairs of the American Historical Association, his most important service being Chairman of the Public Archives Commission in 1900-1902. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1902 and contributed frequently to the Proceedings of the Society: "The Jackson and Van Buren Papers" in 1905, "Some Bibliographical Desiderata in American History" in 1911, "A New American Constitution" in 1921, and "Do We Learn from History" in 1924. He was married, November 24, 1887, to Harriet Bliss Haskell of Lawrence, Kansas, and was survived by a son, John Haskell MacDonald. C. S. B.

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