

daughters, Miss Muriel Lawler of Yonkers and Mrs. James K. Crimmins of Scarsdale, and by two sons, Lieutenant Arthur P. Lawler and Mr. T. Newman Lawler of Tarrytown.
C. K. S.

ROGER BIGELOW MERRIMAN

Roger B. Merriman was born at Boston on May 24, 1876, a son of Daniel and Helen (Bigelow) Merriman. His father was the pastor of the Central Congregational Church of Worcester and a faithful member of the American Antiquarian Society. Roger was educated at Dalzell's in Worcester and Noble's in Boston, from which he entered Harvard with the Class of 1896. There, considering his later fame as a scholar and his interest in athletics, he was comparatively undistinguished. After graduation he returned to study history and, he said, to play football. In 1897 he went to Balliol College, Oxford, where he spent two years working for the research degree of B.Litt, and enjoying English college life to the full. After another year back at Harvard serving as an assistant in History I, he returned to Europe where he spent two years studying at Berlin and traveling in France and Spain. Concerning his plans, he wrote home: "The road to become a *good* professor nowadays is long, and I won't be a third-class one or in a third-class college for anything, so I am taking my time." His patience was rewarded, for when he took his Ph.D. at Harvard in 1902 he was appointed to the post of instructor in history from which he was promoted in 1908 to become assistant professor, and in 1918 to become professor.

Perhaps no college ever had a more enthusiastic servant. Greatly impressed by the improvement in the quality of the university since his undergraduate days, he devoted himself

to the furthering of that improvement. He was largely responsible for the establishment of the General Examinations in the Division of History, Government, and Economics, which compelled candidates to prove that they had acquired some education as well as a stock of information. As chairman of the Committee on Athletics he put through the rule requiring that Freshmen be subjected to compulsory exercise. When the House system was established he was made master of Eliot House, and no man could have been better qualified by spirit for the job. Thanks to his leadership and personality, Eliot House became the most vigorous and influential of the divisions of the college.

In view of all of the administrative work which Merriman carried, it is amazing that he found time for scholarship, but his *Life and Letters of Thomas Cromwell* (1902) was followed by Gomara's *Annals of Charles V* (1912), the *Rise of the Spanish Empire*, in four volumes (1918-34), and, finally, his *Suleiman the Magnificent* (1944). His teaching personality was that of one of the great characters out of his favorite period. Many of his graduate students worshipped him. Others who did not know him so well, and some of the undergraduates, thought that "Frisky" rather over-did the part of a college character. His remarkable zest for life found an opportunity to express itself during the first World War. The first year of the struggle he was in France, lecturing on the James Hazen Hyde Foundation, and doing what an American in his place could do to help the Allies. After his return to this country and its entry into the war he served as Colonel Azan's interpreter on the Harvard mission, delivering his lectures and translating his orders. In May, 1918, he became a captain of Ordnance, but when his superior failed to agree with him on the matter of his being sent to France, he had himself transferred to the staff of General W. S. Graves. However, this manœuvre brought

him not to France but to Vladivostok, where he acquired a dislike of Communists which he never lost. He finally returned to France in the more prosaic capacity of exchange professor at the Sorbonne in the year 1925-26.

Among European scholars Mr. Merriman's reputation was if anything greater than among Americans. He received honorary degrees from Oxford, Glasgow, and Cambridge, and was a member of several European honorary societies. Here he was a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a vice-president of the Massachusetts Historical Society. In October, 1902, he was elected to the American Antiquarian Society and a year later he read before it a paper on "Edward Woodville—Knight-Errant."

Always the advocate of a strenuous life, Mr. Merriman did not permit the loss of an eye in a shooting accident to affect his game of tennis, but his last prolonged and painful illness brought him to quote Cromwell, "My chief desire here is to make what haste I may to be gone." He died at his summer home at St. Andrews-by-the-Sea in New Brunswick on September 7, 1945, and was buried at Clinton, Massachusetts. He is survived by his widow, the former Dorothea Foote, and by four children, Lieutenant Commander Roger B. Merriman, Jr., Daniel Merriman, director of the Bingham Oceanographic Laboratory, Dorothea Foote (Mrs. Ethan A. H. Sims), and Helen Prudence (Mrs. Mason Fernald).

C. K. S.

JOHN HILL MORGAN

John Hill Morgan, one of the leading authorities in the country on American colonial art, died July 16, 1945. He was born in New York City, June 30, 1870, the son of James

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