

to provide suitable honorariums, scholars were invited to deliver lectures at the University of Pennsylvania, these lectures to be expanded into book form for publication. To 1952 fourteen volumes have been published, all by scholars in their chosen fields.

In April, 1950, Philip established The Philip H. and A. S. W. Rosenbach Foundation to foster and encourage interest in books, manuscripts, paintings, drawings, prints, furniture, silverware and other objects of art. Almost simultaneously with the creation of the Foundation important gifts were made to it, including the Doctor's collection of Americana and Philip's collection of English books, in expectation of making their home on Delancey Street a museum. Doctor Rosenbach bequeathed his entire residuary estate to the Foundation.

The encouragement of the brothers Rosenbach to literary undertakings will always remain as a monument to their interest in cultural American life.

Personally the passing of the Doctor means much to me, after a close friendship of forty years. It must mean much to others, for he had the capacity of making friends and keeping them. His nature was attractive and companionable. For a man of his achievements he was modest and self-depreciating, even although he was always willing to narrate the story of some marvellous acquisition. I know that he was often shy and sensitive. But I can think of no better host or friend.

C. S. B.

### GEORGE PARKER WINSHIP

George Winship was born at Bridgewater, Massachusetts, on July 29, 1871, a son of Albert Edward and Ella R. (Parker) Winship. From Somerville High School he went

to Harvard College where, according to his own account, he made himself a nuisance around the library. He intended to go into newspaper work, but after being graduated in 1893, he remained in Cambridge for two years as an assistant in history, and incidentally picked up an M.A. His opinion of graduate schools was always a low one, and his own doctorate was a Litt.D. awarded him by the University of Michigan in 1917.

In 1895, on the recommendation of Justin Winsor, John Nicholas Brown took George Winship to Providence to undertake the task of transforming the great private library of John Carter Brown into a research institution. The better to prepare himself for his problems there, Winship spent long periods in old and New Mexico, in the latter being attached to an expedition of the United States Bureau of Ethnology. In 1900 the library and he were transferred to Brown University, where he was drawn into teaching.

After twenty years in Providence, Winship was called back to Harvard as librarian of the Harry Elkins Widener collection and custodian of the rare books of the Harvard College Library. He was the first "rare book man" to be employed by the University, so he had the delightful task of sifting the rarities from the largest academic library and gathering them into a collection which he fondly hoped would rival the Bodleian. From 1926 to 1936 he had the title of Assistant Librarian.

Winship was a prodigious writer of articles and a tireless editor of early documents. He was never happier than when reprinting some account of isolated ancestral misbehavior in such a way as to cloud the reputation of a whole generation. The more important of his many solid contributions were *The Coronado Expedition* (1896), *Cabot Bibliography* (1900), *Gutenberg to Plantin* (1926), and *The First Cambridge Press* (1945). The last was the substance of the series of Rosenbach lectures which he delivered in 1941.

During his earlier professional period George Winship was insatiably addicted to running the great number of bookish clubs and societies to which he belonged. In his later years he tended to restrict his activities to the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, the Club of Odd Volumes, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Walpole Society, and the American Antiquarian Society. He was elected to the last in 1899, and he used to remark that he owed this premature honor to Dr. Samuel Abbott Green who wanted to try him out here in order to see whether he would be wanted in the Massachusetts Historical Society. Edward Channing coached him in regard to his conduct at his first meeting, instructing him particularly to hold himself aloof from the oceans of champagne at President Salisbury's luncheon and to place himself strategically for the butler who later appeared with a bottle of Napoleon sherry for the older and wiser members. Mr. Winship, to the distress of the butler, soon worked out a unique system for obtaining two glasses of the sherry.

At this first meeting Winship read a paper on "Some Facts about John and Sebastian Cabot." In connection with the reorganization of the Library and Museum in 1907, he presented a report on policy which made such a sharp and stimulating attack on old collecting customs that it was incorporated by Clarence Brigham into his first report as librarian. Two years later he became Recording Secretary of the Society, and when in 1913 he resigned that office because of a prolonged absence in Europe, he was elected to the Council. He used to say that he owed this very early promotion to the need to dilute the antediluvianism of the Council of that day. He survived not only all of the then members, but the next fifteen as well. Frequently he wrote the Report of the Council, and usually made it an earnest, challenging document. In his later years he gave rein to his sharp wit, which he frequently turned against

himself, for he had no vanity. It was never exercised maliciously on those who were absent, and was usually enjoyed by those upon whom it was turned. He produced so many epigrams and ideas that he was often wrong in a stimulating way. He never resented having this pointed out, and could rarely be drawn into an argument.

After an attack of phlebitis in 1932, Mr. Winship spent more and more of his time in his old house at Charles River, where he kept cows, pigs, hens, and a private press, *The Sign of the George*, on which he printed literary first editions, partly to ridicule what he thought was an absurd preoccupation on the part of collectors. Later he had a summer place at North Sandwich, New Hampshire. He died at Charles River on June 22, 1952, survived by his wife, Claire Bliven, and by their three children, George Parker, Ann, and Stephen.

C. K. S.

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