

While in the Divinity School, Foote had been preaching as a supply in Maine and had served as Secretary to the Trustees of the Penn Normal and Agricultural School, St. Helena Island, South Carolina. In 1902 he was ordained in King's Chapel and called to the First Unitarian Church of New Orleans. On June 22, 1903, he married Eleanor Tyson Cope. Three years later he went to the First Unitarian Church of Ann Arbor, where he served for four years. In 1909 he had become Secretary of the Department of Education of the American Unitarian Association, a job which demanded far travel and wide personal acquaintance. Finding that he enjoyed this, he resigned his pulpit in 1910, and devoted himself to the work of the Association. At one time he was a trustee of Hampton Institute and of five minor Southern schools. His contribution was recognized by the degree of S.T.D. granted him by the Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry.

In 1912 Foote built a large house in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and there and in a summer place in Maine raised five children. Their demands on his time had much to do with his acceptance of a sedentary assistant professorship of preaching and parish administration in the Harvard Divinity School in 1914. There he remained for a decade, broken for him only by service with the Red Cross in Washington in 1918. In 1924 he became pastor of the First Church of Belmont where he remained for sixteen years, resigning shortly before the outbreak of World War II created a great shortage of ministers. Again he was on the road, preaching as a supply, and finally closing this chapter of his life with the organization of the Unitarian Church in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Besides the parish ministry, Dr. Foote's great interest had always been church music, and in 1914 he had served as secretary of the committee which prepared the erudite

and unsingable Unitarian Hymn Book of 1914. Always active in the Hymn Society of America, he became its president in 1941. He was also active in the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the American Antiquarian Society. He first came to the attention of this Society because of his interest in early American painting, and he was a member of the committee which organized the Worcester exhibition of seventeenth-century portraits which marked the beginning of serious study in this field. He was elected in 1935, he joined John Hill Morgan in preparing for our *Proceedings* "An Extension of Lawrence Park's List of the Works of Joseph Blackburn," and at the meeting of October, 1939, he read an historically important paper on "Musical Life in Boston in the Eighteenth Century."

Dr. Foote was best known, outside of church circles, for his books on Robert Feke (1930) and Jeremiah Dummer (1935). Indeed these works shook the field of American Art history until it was observed that he had not been very critical in accepting the attributions of the works of art which he was discussing. He later said that he had not believed that a gentleman would misrepresent the provenance of an "ancestral" portrait, or that an art dealer would lie about the works which he had for sale. When shown the degree to which he had been imposed upon by those who had insignificant pictures which they hoped to make valuable and important, he showed no resentment, and no tendency to adhere stubbornly to his mistakes. Indeed in his later years he was more cautious than Clarence Brigham when it came to buying unrecognized "Fekes" cheaply.

Dr. Foote outlived the period of his activity by nearly twenty years. He appeared last at the soothing meetings of the Trustees of the Charity of Edward Hopkins and of the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians

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