

'SAMUEL S. HOLLINGSWORTH.

It is with deep sorrow that the Editors of the AMERICAN LAW REGISTER AND REVIEW record the untimely death of Samuel S. Hollingsworth, Esq., a member of the Editorial Committee. The following notices, contributed by members of the Philadelphia Bar who had the best opportunity of becoming familiar with Mr. Hollingsworth in his capacity as teacher as well as practitioner, serve to show the loss which his death has occasioned.

Samuel S. Hollingsworth, one of the Editorial Committee of the AMERICAN LAW REGISTER AND REVIEW, one of the leaders of the Philadelphia Bar, and the Professor of the Law of Contracts, Corporations, and Pleading at Law, in the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania, died, after a brief illness, on Thursday, June 28, 1894.

A meeting of the Philadelphia Bar was held on July 2, 1894, in the United States Circuit Court Room. The Hon. James T. Mitchell presided, and Messrs. Henry N. Paul, Jr., and George Stuart Patterson were requested to act as secretaries. Addresses were delivered by C. Stuart Patterson, Esq., Richard C. McMurtrie, Esq., Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker, Mayer Sulzberger, Esq., Richard C. Dale, Esq., John Cadwalader, Esq., David W. Sellers, Esq., and Charles Cooper Townsend, Esq. The following minute was unanimously adopted:

"The Philadelphia Bar mourns in the death of Samuel Shorey Hollingsworth, the loss of one, whose personal character and professional ability commanded the admiration and respect of all who knew him. He was a learned lawyer, a judicious adviser, and a skillful and persuasive advocate. As a teacher of law, he was patient and thorough, and he inspired those whom he taught with that enthusiasm for study, which always animated him. As a man he was courageous,

steadfast of purpose, prompt to recognize, and zealous to discharge the claims of friendship, and faithful to every call of duty. Dying in the maturity of his powers, and with the promise of yet greater distinction before him, he has left to his professional brethren, the memory and the example of his stainless life."

At a meeting of the Faculty and Fellows of the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania, the following minute was adopted:

The Faculty and Fellows of the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania, sorrowfully record by this minute their sense of the heavy loss which the University and the Law School have suffered in the untimely death of Professor Samuel S. Hollingsworth. His thorough knowledge of legal principles, accuracy of thought, and clearness of statement, made him an efficient and successful teacher. His courage, fidelity to right, and sound judgment were of signal service to the administration of the School. His colleagues mourn in his death, the loss of a learned professor, a valued associate, and a friend.

The Editors of the AMERICAN LAW REGISTER AND REVIEW cannot fail to add to these manifestations of sorrow, their own expression of grief for the loss which they have sustained in the death of Mr. Hollingsworth. His sound learning, his trained ability, and his clear judgment rendered him a valuable and efficient member of the Editorial Committee, his counsel and advice were always at the service of the Editors, and he was always ready to further the interests of the REVIEW. Nor can the Editors forget that they studied under Professor Hollingsworth in the Law School, and that they there came under that powerful and lasting influence which he brought to bear upon his students, and which bound each of those students to him as friend to friend.

C. S. P.

After an illness of about two weeks, Samuel Shorey Hollingsworth died of typhoid fever, on Thursday, June 28, 1894, at his residence at Gwynedd, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Belonging to Philadelphia by ancestry, though not by birth, Mr. Hollingsworth's whole career as a law student and lawyer was identified with that city, and amply did he repay to its Bar the debt of his profession.

We add the following brief sketch of his life :

Mr. Hollingsworth was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on November 11, 1842, his parents being Jehu Hollingsworth, a native of Philadelphia, and Fanny E. Shorey, of Orleans County, New York. The family subsequently removed from Cleveland to Zanesville, Ohio, and his early education was conducted at the High School in the latter city. He had contemplated entering West Point, but concluded to complete his education at Yale College, where he entered in the Junior year and graduated in 1863, a member of a class which counted in its ranks a number of men who have since attained distinction : notably his former colleague and friend, the late George Biddle, of Philadelphia, William C. Whitney, ex-Secretary of the Navy, and Professor W. G. Sumner, of Yale.

Leaving college, Mr. Hollingsworth came to Philadelphia and began the study of law in the office of William Henry Rawle, Esq., whence he was admitted to the Bar in 1866. Shortly afterwards he was associated for several years with George W. Biddle, Esq., taking part in nearly all the important cases in which that gentleman was engaged during that period.

Upon leaving Mr. Biddle's office, he entered upon an active practice, but found time to take part in literary work, and, in company with Samuel W. Pennypacker, Esq. (now Judge of the Court of Common Pleas), and the late E. G. Platt, Esq., prepared the supplemental index to the English Common Law Reports.

At quite an early period he became interested in the law of patents and was led to take up that branch of practice, where his accurate and thorough general knowledge, so often lacking in the specialist, coupled with mechanical and scientific attainments of a high order, soon brought him to the foremost rank of patent lawyers.

So far, however, from restricting himself to this specialty, he

was constantly employed in general practice, and in 1889 was elected, by the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, to the Professorship of the law of Contracts and Corporations, and Pleading at Law. This chair he occupied until the time of his death.

In politics Mr. Hollingsworth was a strong Republican, but in 1881 he received an independent nomination for the Common Councils of Philadelphia, to which office he was elected from the Seventh Ward, after a close contest.

Conspicuous service on the Committees of Law, of Finance and of the Gas Works, and the general recognition of his ability, both by his colleagues and constituents, led to his renomination and election by the Republican party. After serving a portion of his second term, he removed to the country and consequently resigned his position.

In addition to membership in the committees above referred to, he was chairman of the committee which investigated the affairs of the Alms-house, and whose startling revelations led to radical and permanent changes in the management.

The very brief time permitted for the writing of this sketch has not sufficed to collate and set forth the numerous cases of importance in which Mr. Hollingsworth had an active hand and by which his powers became known to the Bar and Bench.

His professional character, as revealed by these labors, was marked most prominently by two traits—marvellous accuracy of knowledge, and an intuitive perception, immediate and unerring, of the crucial point of the case submitted to him.

Ardent and aggressive in debate, impatient of intellectual trickery or shallow thinking, relentless towards everything that had the least taint of unfairness, he so bore himself in the struggles of professional and political life that no antagonist could find ground to become an enemy, and many of his hardest battles won for him the lasting and warm regard of his opponents.

It is not often that an advocate of such force possesses in an equally high degree the judicial temperament, but the recognition of Mr. Hollingsworth's powers, by his brother lawyers, was not less in the latter direction than in the former. Few

men have been so often selected by agreement of counsel for referee or master in difficult cases ; fewer still in these positions, have succeeded in winning, to such an extent as he did, the confidence of litigants and counsel, or in obtaining a fuller acquiescence in judgments rendered.

Personally, his individuality was as strongly marked as was his professional character. Quick, often brusque, in manner, keenly alive to humor, simple in his tastes to a degree that would have seemed almost affected, but for the fact that affectation was a thing unknown to his frank and straightforward nature, he was a companion eagerly sought for by his fellows, and a friend whose heart knew only tenderness and truth.

F.