

ROBERT DECOURCY WARD.

By GUY HINSDALE, M.D.

Prof. Robert DeCourcy Ward was elected an honorary member of this Association fifteen years ago. For forty years he taught physical geography, meteorology and climatology in Harvard University, from which he was graduated in 1889, and from which he received his degree of A.M. in 1893. He was president of the American Meteorological Society and a corresponding member of the American Geographical Society and a fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society of London.

It is impossible at this time to enumerate all of his activities and his publications, which were very numerous and of a high order. His best known book was "The Climate of the United States," 1925, and many of his articles appear in the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His "Climate Especially in Relation to Man" appeared in 1908.

Professor Ward read a paper before the Association at the meeting in Boston in 1918, on "The Major Controls of the Climate of the United States" and also contributed a paper "A Bibliography of United States of America Climatology." His last publication was on "The Literature of Climatology," which appeared in March, 1931, in the Annals of the Association of American Geographers. It is an exceedingly valuable contribution to the study of climatology.

Personally, Dr. Ward was most attractive, his classes were always large, some exceeding one hundred in attendance, and with only one or two assistants they took heavy toll on his time and strength. Every one spoke with enthusiasm and respect for the instructor. He was strict but impartial, capable and effective in all he undertook. He died at his home in Cambridge at 63, very unexpectedly and sincerely mourned by all who knew him.



ROBERT DECOURCY WARD, 1867-1931