



In Memoriam

THOMAS F. O'CONNOR

1899-1950

DR. THOMAS F. O'CONNOR was called to his eternal reward on September 15, 1950, at the age of 51. His death came as a sad shock to the staff of *THE AMERICAS*. The editors will always gratefully remember the invaluable assistance rendered by Dr. O'Connor in founding and nurturing this review.

Dr. O'Connor devoted much of his life to teaching American history at various colleges: Little Rock College, St. Michael's College, and later at Fordham University. At the time of his death he was engaged at St. Louis University. Since 1941 he had been historiographer of the Diocese of Syracuse. From 1944 to 1948 he served in this capacity for the Archdiocese of New York. At the time of his death he was preparing materials for a history of the Diocese of Boise. He had, in fact, returned from Boise only the day before he died.

In recognition of his eminence in the field of American Catholic history St. Bonaventure University conferred on him an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws in June, 1946. In 1946 he was president of the American Catholic Historical Association. He was a frequent contributor to such distinguished journals as the *Catholic Historical Review*, the *Historical Bulletin*, the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* and *Mid-America*. Readers of *THE AMERICAS* have looked forward to his annual selective bibliography, "The Writings on United States Catholic History." An active member of the Society of American Archivists, he was a contributor to their journal, *The American Archivist*.

The editors of *THE AMERICAS* feel that in Dr. O'Connor's death the United States has lost its foremost scholar in American Catholic history. No one had such a thorough and detailed knowledge of the history of the Church in this country. To those who knew this genial, kindly man the loss will be personal as well. *May he rest in peace.*