

Historical Sketch
by
Henry Steele Commager,
Massachusetts

“...devotion to and distinction in history (is) the mark of a special philosophical attitude, one that reflects the passing scene against the background of the past, connects each generation with something bigger than itself, links past, present and future in a meaningful continuum, and by recalling the indebtedness of the present to the past, dramatizes the responsibility of the present to the future: those who are history-conscious are generally posterity-conscious.”