

Obituaries

EVERETT DWIGHT GRAFF

Everett D. Graff died in Rome of a heart attack on March 11, 1964, thus removing from the scene a major benefactor of the Newberry Library and a good friend of the American Antiquarian Society.

Mr. Graff was born in Clarinda, Iowa, on August 7, 1885, the son of Valentine and Nancy E. (Fairley) Graff. His father was a successful merchant of that town and active in state politics. Young Graff took full advantage of the educational opportunities offered by his home town and then moved on to Lake Forest College from which he graduated in 1906. He entered the service of Joseph T. Ryerson & Son, Inc., a Chicago steel firm, at a properly humble position. Forty-five years later he retired as president and chairman of the executive committee of his company.

In the nineteen-twenties Mr. Graff began collecting seriously in the field of frontier Americana. Over the years he accumulated a remarkable collection of books and manuscripts which has gone to the Newberry Library and which is described in the December, 1960, issue of *The Newberry Bulletin*, with other suitable encomia. Mr. Graff was president of the Newberry from 1953 until his death and also served as the president of the Art Institute of Chicago in the years 1954 to 1958. In recognition of his leadership to the cultural life of the city, both Lake Forest College and Northwestern University awarded him honorary degrees.

Donald McKay Frost invited Graff to Boston in 1939 and brought him to this institution at that time. Thereafter, Brigham, Vail, and Shipton engaged in lively correspondence with him on bibliographical matters. Mr. Graff was elected to membership at the October meeting in 1940. Happily, he was able to attend several meetings and he expressed his interest in our affairs with regular and generous gifts. Among them were three volumes of *The Deseret News*. In short, he was a useful member and a good friend. The present writer had the pleasure of meeting him once, at the Newberry Library in the summer of 1963. Mr. Graff was cordial and eager to know of the recent activities of the Society.

Mr. Graff was married on November 19, 1918, to Verde Alice Clark who survives him, as do their three children, Mrs. William C. Childs, Robert C. Graff, and Mrs. Charles B. Nevins.

M. A. McC.

PERRY GILBERT EDDY MILLER

Mr. Morgan's essay on Perry Miller in this number of our *Proceedings* is so vivid and true that a standard obituary would be out of place. However, the different relation in which I stood to Miller suggests some comments on Mr. Morgan's paper which may provide perspective. Perry and I were contemporaries and rivals in the Graduate School. The rivalry lasted until he read Calvin's Institutes in the original, and mastered its contents. Morgan remarks that Miller had the manners of a stevedore; that was a pose intended to impress his students, as was his avuncular "grand old man" act when we became fat and white haired. Morgan remarks that Miller was contemptuous of social history; certainly he never let me, a writer of that kind, become aware of such contempt. To me, he praised my social his-

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