

devoted to bibliographical studies. Of these his bibliographies of Fourth of July orations and of newspaper reprints were the most important.

About 1913 Mr. Gavit became, he said, "a humble assistant" to the "Dean of American newspaper librarians," Clarence Brigham, and from that day he was practically a slave to our various projects. He never coveted for his own institution a book which would serve scholarship better if placed in some other library, and he assumed that every bibliographer had unlimited claims on his out-of-office time. His retirement from the library in October, 1946, only freed him to serve others.

Mr. Gavit's election to the Society in 1938 could not increase his service to us, but it did lead him, whenever the dew of dividends was heavy, to make astonishingly large financial contributions. As he aided Mr. Brigham with the newspapers and Mr. Vail with Sabin, he helped me in the Evans work with that same gentle wit. During the last few years he was confined rather closely to his home in Delmar. He died in the Albany Hospital on November 28, 1959, leaving his widow, Katherine Hulst Gavit, and numerous descendants.

C. K. S.

FERRIS GREENSLET

Mr. Greenslet was born at Glens Falls, New York, on June 30, 1875, a son of George Bernard and Josephine (Ferris) Greenslet. He was graduated in 1897 from Wesleyan University, where he took an M.A. before proceeding to Columbia, where he received a Ph.D. in 1900. His first interest was historical writing, and his work on Joseph Glanville, which appeared in 1900, was the first of five of his books to appear in a space of nine years.

In 1902 Mr. Greenslet became associate editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, but five years later he removed to Houghton Mifflin, where he became a director in 1910 and general manager of the trade department in 1933, positions which he held until his retirement in 1942. His literary reminiscences, published the next year with the title *Under the Bridge*, tell the story of a life which he regarded as pure adventure, highlighted by his discovery of the manuscript of *The Education of Henry Adams*, and Willa Cather's *My Antonia*. After his retirement he wrote his most popular book, *The Lowells and Their Seven Worlds*.

Mr. Greenslet was elected to this Society in 1947, but he was never an active member. The Massachusetts Historical Society had the same experience. His two hobbies were fishing and obtaining legislative clearance of the name of Ann (Greenslet) Pudeator, who was hanged for witchcraft in 1692. With Ann we could compete, but a man who fishes all summer and writes about it most of the winter can never be lured into antiquarian pursuits. Younger men were impressed by his classical knowledge, his gentle wit, and his willingness to frolic a bit when others might have feared to be ridiculous. He died on November 19, 1959, at the Cambridge home of his daughter, Mrs. John H. Finley, and is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ellen S. H. Greenslet.
C. K. S.

HENRY PLIMPTON KENDALL

Henry Kendall was born in Boston on January 15, 1878, a son of the Reverend Henry L. and Clara Idella (Plimpton) Kendall. He attended Lawrenceville Academy and Amherst College, where he was graduated in 1899. His first jobs were with the Plimpton Press and the Holliston Mills, but in 1903 he took over a small and bankrupt bleachery, the

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