and portraits of its citizens was really notable, being
equalled by few other similar collections in the country.
Thousands of negatives of pictures taken from the
beginnings of local photography were all arranged in
envelopes and indexed, providing a graphic history of
high historic value.

Mr. Hill possessed a remarkable technical ability in
inlaying manuscripts, portraits and early prints,
mounting them into volume form, and illuminating the
page with lettering and design. His greatest work in
this line was a series of twenty-six volumes on the
beginnings of American transportation, which set is
now preserved in the Harvard Business Library. A
similar series relating to Lafayette's Tour, in seven
volumes, is in the Library of Congress and another,
containing the Artemas Ward manuscripts, is in the
Massachusetts Historical Society Library. Mr. Hill
was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in
1901, and immediately manifested much interest in its
work. He edited, most ably, the two volumes of the
Society's Transactions containing the Diary of Isaiah
Thomas, and contributed to the Proceedings in 1910 a
paper on "Life at Harvard a Century Ago." He also
wrote occasional historical papers for the Worcester
Historical Society and various Worcester publications.
For twenty-three years he served as an auditor of this
Society and in 1917 took charge of the arrangement and
repair of the great collection of Stephen Salisbury
manuscripts. To the officials of this Society, as to all
others, he acted as an adviser in questions of local
Worcester history, and placed freely at their service
the resources of his own extensive collections. His
place as a guide to students of Worcester history will
certainly not be filled during the present generation.

C. S. B.

ROBERT HENDRE KELBY

Robert Hendre Kelby was born in New York City,
August 31, 1847 and died at his home at Freeport,

Long Island, August 25, 1927. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, the son of Thomas and Margaret Mathews Kelby. During the Civil War he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1864 at the age of eighteen and served during the remainder of the war. In 1868 he became an assistant in the library of the New York Historical Society where his brother, William Kelby, was then assistant librarian and thus began upon a life work that was to last nearly sixty years. In 1893 he was elected assistant librarian and in 1899 librarian. During his long connection with the Society, as Mr. Alexander J. Wall shows in his admirable sketch of Mr. Kelby in the New York Historical Society Bulletin for January 1928, the number of volumes in the library increased from 25,000 volumes to over 150,000 volumes, and the funds from $15,300 to over $1,109,000. In this period, some of the most valuable collections were acquired and many important projects undertaken. The raising of the funds which resulted in the laying of the corner-stone of the new building in 1903 was chiefly due to his efforts, and for all time to come the Society will look back with gratitude to this modest custodian of its possessions whose appeals for support did not go unanswered.

In 1921, at his own request, Mr. Kelby was relieved of his active duties and was elected Librarian Emeritus. During the last seven years of his life he was largely confined to his house as a result of a paralytic shock, but never did he lose the cheerfulness and humor which were outstanding elements in his character. Mr. Kelby was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1918, and was always much interested in aiding both its library and its librarian.   C. S. B.

WILLIAM PENDLETON PALMER

William Pendleton Palmer died in Cleveland, Ohio, December 17, 1927. He was born in Pittsburgh, June 17, 1861, the son of James Stewart Palmer and