Obituaries

was given the gold medal of the Bibliographical Society of England, for he was the first American to receive this award. He was also given the gold medal of the New York Historical Society and on the same occasion his oil portrait, painted for the Society by Dewitt M. Lockman in 1931 (by far his finest portrait), was unveiled. He was one of the founders of the Bibliographical Society of America and its librarian from 1905 to 1909, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an Honorary Officer of the Academie d'Instruction Publique des Beaux Arts et des Cultes of the French Republic and an honorary member of the Grolier Club, to name only a few of his distinctions. He was the recipient of three honorary degrees: the M.A. of Harvard in 1896, the LL.D. of Michigan and the Litt.D. of Brown in 1924. R. W. G. V.

CHESTER NOYES GREENOUGH

Chester Noyes Greenough, son of William Smith and Elizabeth Macfarland (Noyes) Greenough, was born at Wakefield, Massachusetts, June 29, 1874, and died at his home in Belmont, February 26, 1938. After courses in the Wakefield public schools, he entered Harvard, from which he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1898, followed by A.M. in 1899 and Ph.D. in 1904. He served as instructor in English at Harvard until 1907 when he was elected professor of English at the University of Illinois. Here he remained until 1910, when he returned to Harvard as assistant professor of English, to become full professor five years later. In 1919, he assumed the post of acting dean of the college, and two years later was appointed dean, thus to serve until 1927. As professor of English A, the required course for Harvard freshman, and as dean, he was known to thousands of students and alumni, inspiring in them a spirit of friendliness, a respect for his quality of decision and an admiration for his genius in organization. He was active in the develop-

American Antiquarian Society

ment of the Harvard house plan, and in 1930 was appointed master of the first of the dormitories, Dunster House, which position he held until 1934. His primary contribution to the house plan was his advice that each house should be built around its library, with the result that the library at Dunster was a monument to his foresight.

Professor Greenough's printed contributions in the field of literature were varied and valuable. With collaborators he brought out "Specimens of Prose Composition" in 1907 and "English Composition" in 1917, the latter republished in 1932 as "Writing Well." An authority on Addison, Steele, Dryden and Pope, he wrote or lectured on these authors and in 1905 was co-editor of "Selections from the Writings of Joseph Addison." One of the earliest teachers in the separate field of American literature, he joined with Barrett Wendell in 1904 in bringing out in condensed form "A History of Literature in America." His greatest undertaking was a Bibliography of English and American Prose Fiction from 1470 to 1832, a project upon which he had worked for many years and which at the time of his death had grown to nearly two hundred thousand titles. The catalog, which is on cards, deposited in the Treasure Room of the Harvard Library, is divided into three sections—authors, titles, and subjects, and any fiction in the English language, wherever printed, is included. In no bibliographical venture are the titles of American fiction so comprehensively represented. If such a work could be published, it would be of incalculable value to scholars.

Mr. Greenough married, August 10, 1907, Marietta McPherson of Marshfield, who died September 11, 1925. On June 13, 1931 he married Mrs. Ruth Hornblower Atkins, who with five step-children survived him.

He was a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, to each of which he occasionally contributed papers. He

 $\mathbf{24}$

[April,

Obituaries

was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1927 and contributed to its Proceedings in 1935 a paper on "New England Almanacs and the American Revolution." He was a constant correspondent with the Library and a frequent visitor, especially during later years when he was working on his Bibliography of Prose Fiction. His friendliness and his warm appreciation of aid made the members of the Library staff always eager to help him in his researches.

C. S. B

FRANCIS RUSSELL HART

Francis Russell Hart, a member of the Council of this Society, died at his Boston home, January 18, 1938. He was born at New Bedford, the son of Thomas Mandell and Sarah Davis (Watson) Hart, January 16, Upon finishing his schooling at the Friends 1868. Academy in New Bedford, he entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1889, he left college to embark upon an engineering career in the West Indies, acting first for the Massachusetts Electrical Engineering Company and the Boston Fruit Company in Jamaica. He soon became interested in the financial as well as the technical aspects of railway building, and in 1891 became general manager of the Cartagena-Magdalena Railway in Colombia. He was elected president of this railway in 1893 and retained the office until 1906. From 1908 to 1919, he was in the consular service in Colombia, first as vice-consul and then as consul. Much of his time was spent in Boston, where he formed connections with many financial and commercial organizations. He became vice-president of the Old Colony Trust Company in 1896, and in 1908, vice-chairman of the board of directors, which position he held until 1934. He was a director of various railroads, steamship companies and commercial corporations, his leading interest being in the United Fruit Company, of which he was made a director in Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.