OUR MISTAKE

Attentive reader Matthew Heffner rightly and tactfully notes that on page 101 of our Autumn 2010 issue there is a typo. Line two reads “... more important role in our political process that Tushnet acknowledges here.” I believe the highlighted “that” should be “than.”

IN MEMORIAM: A.W.B. SIMPSON

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of longtime University of Michigan professor of law and longtime Green Bag adviser Brian Simpson. We could not say better in Brian’s memory than John Masson did in the obituary in the University [of Michigan] Record:

A prolific and influential writer, his signature wit and meticulous research were perhaps most evident in the mordantly titled “Cannibalism and the Common Law,” a study of a 19th Century British court case involving shipwrecked sailors who were prosecuted for killing and eating a cabin boy. The book was in keeping with Simpson’s hallmark dedication to researching the minutiae of common law cases, then presenting his findings in clear and compelling prose.
Then there is the lesson learned in the course of that research that he passed along to his Michigan students in his 2008 farewell lecture:

When researching a case of cannibalism at sea, be sure to consult descendants of both the diners and the entrée.

And that was just one of his many useful and entertaining projects. And so we toast you, Brian Simpson, with “words of limitation, and not of purchase.” See 4 GREEN BAG 2D i (Autumn 2000).

EXEMPLARY LEGAL WRITING 2010

Congratulations to this year’s Green Bag “exemplary legal writing” honorees. Samples of their good work appear in the 2011 edition of the Green Bag Almanac and Reader. They are:

Opinions for the Court

Frank H. Easterbrook, Bodum USA, Inc. v. La Cafetiere, Inc., 621 F.3d 624 (7th Cir. 2010)


John L. Kane, U.S. v. Brownfield, No. 08-cr-00452-JLK (D. Colo. 2009)

Kevin G. Ross, State v. Wiggins, 788 N.W.2d 509 (Minn. App. 2010)