Edward Bradford Titchener
Sage Professor of Psychology in the Graduate School

1867 — August 3, 1927

In 1892, just a year after the establishment of the Sage School of Philosophy, Edward Bradford Titchener was appointed to the Chair of Psychology, as assistant professor, and with various changes of title he continued in that office until his sudden death on August 3d, 1927. Trained in the humanistic disciplines and in biology at Oxford, and rigorously schooled in laboratory methods at Leipzig under Wilhelm Wundt, he came here with unusual equipment for scientific investigation and writing: he had buoyant health, astonishing industry and energy, exact and exacting respect for facts, a rare gift for the systematization of knowledge, and the power of clear and precise expression. Long before his death he became the acknowledged “dean of experimental psychology in America.”

Professor Titchener was a man who read swiftly, a man of varied scientific and human interests. His a vocational reading included anthropology, biology, polite letters, numismatics, music: and in the last named subjects his discernment and range of knowledge awakened the admiration of experts. As a personality he arrested immediate attention. He was ruggedly and picturesquely individual, straightforward and fearless in argument, and to young and aspiring minds he extended a genial hospitality. He had delightful and illuminating powers of conversation, which few colleagues enjoyed, owing to his self-imposed isolation.

As a teacher of graduate and undergraduate students few professors in the history of the University have achieved his brilliant success. His course of lectures delivered year after year in Goldwin Smith Hall will long be remembered by many generations of students as an undergraduate classic. As scholar, writer, and colleague, his work and example will be deeply and affectionately cherished by his associates.

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