

Benjamin Freeman Kingsbury

November 18, 1872 — July 8, 1946

Benjamin Freeman Kingsbury was born at St. Charles, Missouri on November 18, 1872, the son of Benjamin Barnes and Sarah Nichols Freeman Kingsbury. A few years thereafter his parents moved to Defiance, Ohio, where he prepared for college.

He received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Buchtel College, now the Municipal University of Akron, in 1893. In the fall of the same year he came to Cornell for graduate work under the direction of Professors Burt Green Wilder and Simon Henry Gage

He received the degree of Master of Science in 1894. His thesis for the Master's degree, "The Histological Structure of the Enteron of *Necturus maculatus*," was awarded first prize in animal histology by the American Microscopical Society and was published in the proceedings of the Society for 1894. He was appointed University Graduate Scholar in Physiology and Vertebrate Zoology in 1894 and in June, 1895, received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. His doctoral dissertation, "The Brain of *Necturus maculatus*," has become one of the minor classics of neurology. In 1895-96 he held the Goldwin Smith Fellowship in Physiology and Vertebrae Zoology.

When in 1896 the Department of Histology was organized by the late Professor Gage in the newly established College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Kingsbury was appointed Instructor in Microscopical Methods, Histology and Embryology and three years later was promoted to an assistant professorship. In 1902 he was made Assistant Professor of Physiology in the Ithaca division of the Medical College. From 1902 to 1904 he studied at the University of Freiburg, i. B., where he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1904.

On the retirement of the late Professor Gage in 1908, Dr. Kingsbury was chosen to succeed him as Professor and Head of the Department of Histology and Embryology.

After his retirement in 1941 Professor Kingsbury was elected Guest Professor of Anatomy in the Medical School of the University of North Carolina. He died in Chapel Hill on July 8, 1946. He is survived by his wife, Janet Williamson Kingsbury, and four children by a former marriage.

Professor Kingsbury served as vice-president of the American Association of Anatomists in 1932-33 and was a member of a number of other scientific and honorary societies. He enjoyed international distinction for his researches in neurology, histology and embryology. He was the author of numerous contributions to scientific

journals, and the following books: *Vertebrate Histology* (with Professor S. H. Gage), 1900; *Laboratory Directions in Pharmacology*, 1905; *Laboratory Directions in Physiology*, 1906; *Laboratory Directions in Histology and Histological technique* 1910, (numerous editions); and *Histological Technique* (with Professor O. A. Johannsen), 1927. He was elected a member of the Institute Internationale d'Embryologie and in 1934 was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science *honoris causa* by Bowdoin College.

Professor Kingsbury was retiring, even shy; only those closest to him could appreciate the real qualities of the man, but even those not so privileged could not fail to see that his was a nature rare in any walk of life.

His achievements as an investigator were outstanding, but it is as a teacher of superlative qualities that he will be remembered by his students, to whose interests he was ever unselfishly devoted. He taught naturally, simply, and lucidly, the effortlessness of his performance concealing the thoughtful preparation for it. Nor was his teaching confined to the classroom and laboratory; the whole conduct of his life was an inspiring example. His students revere his memory, and in them his profound and wholesome influence will live on.

H. B. Adelman, W. N. Barnard, B. P. Young