

# Fred Carlton Stewart

*February 13, 1868 — April 24, 1946*

Fred Carlton Stewart, Emeritus Professor of Botany, died on April 24, 1946, ten years after his retirement in 1936 which concluded a period of more than a third of a century of distinguished service to the agriculture of the State and Nation.

Professor Stewart was born at Clymer, N. Y. on February 13, 1868, but the family moved to Iowa while he was quite young. He received the B. S. and M. S. degrees from Iowa State College, and in 1894 was named mycologist for the Geneva Station and assigned to duty at the newly created substation at Jamaica, Long Island where under trying conditions, he attacked the new and varied problems of plant disease control. After three years he resigned this position and entered Cornell for graduate study, only to decide that he could accomplish more through European travel and contact with leading mycologists of that day. Upon his return to this country, he was appointed Botanist of the newly created Department of Botany at the Geneva Station and thus began a period of thirty-eight years of most distinguished service in the field of botany, particularly, plant pathology and mycology.

He was a member of the American Phytopathological Society and served as its president in 1913. He always gave of his best to his scientific interests, to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and to the Mycological Society of America. Seemingly, his first interests were in the field of plant diseases. In the field of potato diseases he did pioneer work with virus troubles. The tuber-unit idea, as well as the means of control developed by him are still largely standard practices. He was the author of more than seventy bulletins, papers, and articles dealing with plant pathology, mycology, and allied subjects, and in his early years lectured widely about plant diseases and their control.

All of his work is a record to be proud of and those who had the good fortune to be associated with him know that no call on his time and energy went unheeded. He was ever attentive to the incidental tasks of the day, the meeting of visitors, conferences with farmers as well as with the leading pathologists, in addition to routine duties. His impact upon agriculture must have been great. His exceptional ability to observe and to record precise notes, his strict integrity, his keen sense of justice, and his constant interest in the welfare of his fellow men were greatly to be admired and prized. He was a kindly person who took sincere pleasure in being helpful to others. He left a legacy of a life well lived, a service well rendered.