

# Goldwin Smith

— June 7, 1910

By the death of our beloved colleague, Goldwin Smith, this Faculty has lost its senior member, and Cornell University one of its truest and most sympathetic friends. From its opening, in 1868, through all its existence he has identified himself with the University's interests. During its earliest years, while he was resident with us, by his brilliant and inspiring lectures and not less by his personality he was an inestimable influence. His very presence was a power. After his retirement to Canada he still for many years continued to return to us for his course of lectures; and always his coming was hailed, alike by Faculty and students, as a great and inspiring occasion. None were too mature to listen to him gladly; and, whether in the class room or in that social converse to which he so generously welcomed even his boys, he was not only a rare intellectual force but a potent inspiration to character. Who of us can ever forget that spare and stately though slightly stooping figure,—that face so eloquent of thought and of experience, so noble in its grave and lofty calm,—that mirthful and mirth-provoking smile which ever and anon broke like a sunbeam through its sadness,—that quizzical twitching of the mouth which heralded and softened his satire,—that voice, so quiet yet so expressive? These, with his pure and noble life and his loyal and unselfish services to Cornell, will be a memory long cherished by this Faculty. He will stand out in the history of the University as one of those who did most to shape and to vitalize its early career.

*Committee: Professors G. L. Burr, Hiram Corson, C. E. Bennett.*

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