

Ralph Stockman Tarr

— *March 21, 1912*

By the sudden death of Ralph Stockman Tarr, Professor of Physical Geography, the University Faculty have lost a beloved colleague, an active investigator, and a teacher of attractive and stimulating personality. Coming to Cornell as Assistant Professor of Geology, and soon winning a Professorship, he gave to the University the best twenty years of his life. Eminently an outdoor geologist, he pushed his physiographic studies into remote regions. For whatever was significant in the forms or surface of the earth he had a keen vision. And what he had seen he described with insight into its causes. His teaching was quickened by his work afield. The fresh air of the glacier stirred in his class room, and the pictured landscape lived because he knew the meaning of its parts. The gift was his in an exceptional degree of simple and vivid presentation. By his writings he not only contributed to advance our knowledge of the work of ice in sculpturing the land, but he raised the whole field of physiographic studies to a collegiate plane by basing his exposition of them upon a competent scientific knowledge. As a man he was sincere and outspoken; steadfast in his convictions, but tolerant of the views of others. For youth and the interests of youth he retained without effort a sympathy as helpful as it is rare. This expression of esteem for a colleague cut off in the midst of his achievements and his plans is enscribed with sorrow upon the-minutes of the University Faculty.

C. H. Hull, Chairman, H. S. Williams, E. W. Olmsted

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