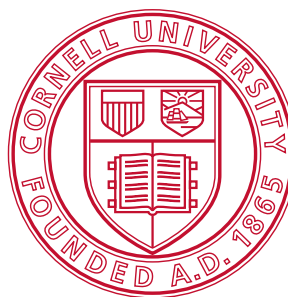


**Memorial Statements of the Cornell University Faculty  
1868-1939  
Volume 1**



**Memorial Statements of the  
Cornell University Faculty**

*The memorial statements contained herein were prepared by the Office of the Dean of the University Faculty of Cornell University to honor its faculty for their service to the university.*

Gould Colman, proofreader  
J. Robert Cooke, producer

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[ecommons.library.cornell.edu/handle/1813/17811](http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/handle/1813/17811)

## *Preface*

The custom of honoring each deceased faculty member through a memorial statement was established in 1868, just after the founding of Cornell University. Annually since 1938, the Office of the Dean of the Faculty has produced a memorial booklet which is sent to the families of the deceased and also filed in the university archives.

We are now making the entire collection of memorial statements (1868 through 2009) readily available online and, for convenience, are grouping these by the decade in which the death occurred, assembling the memorials alphabetically within the decade. The Statements for the early years (1868 through 1938, assembled by Dean Cornelius Betten and now enlarged to include the remaining years of the 1930s, are in volume one. Many of these entries also included retirement statements; when available, these *follow* the companion memorial statement in this book. A CD version has also been created.

A few printed archival copies are being bound and stored in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty and in the Rare and Manuscript Collection in Kroch Library. However, the primary access (approximately 3,400 pages) is online in the University Faculty Archive at <http://ecommons.cornell.edu/handle/1813/17811> and within “The Legacy of Cornell Faculty and Staff” Collection at <http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/handle/1813/14143>

These documents are full-text searchable across all years. Individual memorial statements, as well as volumes of these, may be downloaded. These PDF files include bookmarks and a contents listing with each entry hyperlinked for convenient access. For historical purposes, scans of the original documents are also accessible.

This project was sponsored by The Cornell Association of Professors Emeriti. Proofreaders included: Barry B. Adams, Royal D. Colle, Gould P. Colman, P. C. Tobias de Boer, Ronald B. Furry, Donald F. Holcomb, Malden C. Nesheim, Porus D. Olpadwala and Milo E. Richmond. Judith A. Bower, who has edited these booklets for many years, has had oversight for quality control. These were produced by J. Robert Cooke, co-founder of the Internet-First University Press with Kenneth M. King. J. Robert Cooke has also served as Dean of the University Faculty (1998-2003).

The archival copies of the source materials were provided by Diane D. LaLonde of the Office of the Dean of the Faculty and Elaine Engst of the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collection. The scanning and optical character recognition services were provided by Fiona Patrick and colleagues in the Cornell University Library’s Digital Consulting and Production Services.

## *Preface of the 1941 Book*

From the opening of the University it was the practice of the University Faculty to pass memorial resolutions upon the death of faculty members and these statements were regularly inscribed in the faculty records. In December 1938 the Faculty voted a change of procedure as follows:

*“Upon the death of a member of the University Faculty the President shall formally notify the Faculty at the next meeting and those present shall rise in respect for the memory of the deceased member. Without further authorization the President shall then appoint a committee to prepare an appropriate memorial statement. Such statements shall not be presented in the form of resolutions, as in the past, but shall be annually collected, edited, and printed by the University in a memorial booklet which shall be sent to members of the Faculty, of the Board of Trustees, to the families of the deceased members, and shall be filed with the University records.”*

The new plan was put into effect retroactively to May 8, 1938, and as these memorial statements are since then printed and distributed annually, it seems best to collect the earlier ones for convenient reference.

The practice of the Faculty has not been absolutely uniform in the instances in which faculty members died sometime after retirement from active service. Sometimes resolutions were adopted both at the time of the retirement and at the time of the death of the faculty member, sometimes only at the time of retirement. In case both sets are available only the later one is here included.

*Cornelius Betten  
Dean of the University Faculty*

August 9, 1941

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\* Web address is <http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/handle/1813/> plus five digit ending.

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# Ernest Albee

Professor of Philosophy

1865 — May 15, 1917

Ernest Albee came from his New England home and schools to Cornell University in 1891, the year following the establishment of the Sage School of Philosophy and his connection with the University was continuous from that time until his death on May 15th, 1917. He was appointed instructor in 1892, assistant professor in 1902, and professor of philosophy in 1907. During this long period of service he was for eight years coeditor of *The Philosophical Review* and a frequent contributor to its pages. From the beginning of his association with the Department of Philosophy he was pre-eminent in training of graduate students and in rigorously directing historical research. Few professors have exercised a deeper or happier influence on graduate instruction. He was profoundly convinced of the fundamental value of the historical approach to philosophy, of its illuminating significance for problems of contemporary thought; to that historical background he applied scrupulously exact methods of inquiry. Into this spirit of precision he persistently and patiently inducted generation after generation of advanced students, and with it he inspired his colleagues.

In addition to many articles on philosophical subjects and reviews of current works on philosophy, he wrote twenty-five years ago "A History of English Utilitarianism," which has become a classic and is still the standard and authoritative exposition of that subject.

Dr. Albee was a man of distinguished manners, of gentle courtesy, temperamentally conservative in his point of view, restrained and precise in word and phrase, a searching analyst of ideas and dogmas, but withal a just and appreciative critic of doctrines differing from his own. His career was lived out mainly in the world of books and speculative thought. Although rarely an active participant in administrative or civic affairs, he was an interested and wise observer of their trend. In him were incarnate the scholar's detachment and other-worldliness and, in the finest sense, the aristocracy of learning.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1508 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University June, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Seven*

# William Arnold Anthony

— *May 28, 1908*

“Whereas, In the death of William Arnold Anthony, Ph. B. Professor of Physics in Cornell University from 1872-87, who departed this life on the 28th of May, 1908 in his 73rd year, many members of this faculty who were his colleagues or his pupils have suffered a personal bereavement; and

Whereas, He was a notable figure among the earlier engineers in America, a man of science, of rare gifts, a pioneer in technical and scientific education, a teacher almost unequaled in his power of inspiring and influencing his pupils and a man admired and beloved by all who knew him;

*Be it Resolved*, That we the members of the University Faculty desire to give expression to our sense of the great loss sustained by science and the cause of education in the death of this untiring devotee of sound scientific learning whose long life was spent in the service of mankind: this strong hearted generous, single-minded man, our former associate, whose friendship we have ever cherished and whose memory we delight to honor.

*Be it Further Resolved*, That these resolutions be entered on the minutes of the faculty and that copies be sent to the faculty of the Cooper Union and to the surviving members of his family.”

*Source: Records, p. 421, June 12, 1908.*

# Henry Asmus

*June 2, 1875 — March 1, 1939*

With the sudden death of Henry Asmus on March 1, 1939, the University lost an outstanding authority in a unique field, for Professor Asmus was the last professor of Farriery in the veterinary colleges of America. Born in Germany's province of Hanover in 1875, Professor Asmus studied horseshoeing under Professor M. Lungwitz at the Imperial Veterinary Hochschule. In 1907 he came to America and set up a shoeing establishment in Lowville, New York. This he relinquished in 1913 when he joined the staff of the New York State Veterinary College, serving as instructor in Farriery until 1914, when he was appointed to an assistant professorship. Owing to his early German training Professor Asmus had ingrained a marked intolerance for lack of initiative and for careless work. In consequence he held the respect of students and alumni.

Aside from his college duties, Professor Asmus contributed to farriery magazines, addressed horseshoers' meetings, consulted with owners of valuable horses, and was an adviser of the United States Army. He was past president of the American Horseshoers' Association and an official judge of the American Horse Show Association. In hours of leisure Professor Asmus wrought in iron beautiful objects of master craftsmanship which it delighted him to give to his college and his friends.

The contagion of Henry Asmus's cheerful disposition, the generosity of his nature, and his warm friendliness will long be remembered by his many friends and associates.

## George Francis Atkinson

*January 26, 1854 — November 14, 1918*

The University Faculty desires to express its profound sorrow and its sense of great loss, through the death, on November 14, of George Francis Atkinson.

Since his return to his Alma Mater in 1892, he had been a member of this faculty. In 1896 he was appointed a professor of Botany. During this period of more than a quarter of a century, which was devoted unceasingly and enthusiastically to research, he became an active working member of numerous scientific societies and attained an eminent position among the botanists of the world. In mycology, particularly, he had an international reputation and he was regarded as the foremost authority on the fleshy fungi of this country. In June, 1917, the Board of Trustees generously relieved him of all further teaching and administrative duties in order that he might devote his time entirely to his researches in this field. His exceptional ability and high place among American men of science was formally recognized by his election to the National Academy of Sciences in April, 1918. To his services as a teacher in that higher sense of the word which implies ability to impart enthusiasm and love for research, the success of the large number of botanists throughout the country who have been his pupils bears glowing testimony.

His end came suddenly as the result of influenza followed by pneumonia, incurred during a collecting trip on the Pacific Coast in pursuance of the great monographic study of fleshy fungi upon which he had been engaged for many years, and which was nearing completion. In the death of Professor Atkinson, not this faculty alone, but the whole community of working men of science have lost a gifted colleague, a man of genius who contributed much to the world's knowledge of botany. His work lives after him not only in his writings but in the inspiration imparted to a younger generation of investigators in the field in which he was an honored master.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1011 Resolutions Adopted by The Faculty of Cornell University on The Eleventh Day of December Nineteen Hundred and Eighteen*

# Willard Austen

University Librarian

— July 8, 1934

Announcement was made of the death, on July 8, 1934, of Willard Austen, Librarian Emeritus since 1929.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1592, 1846*

## **RETIREMENT STATEMENT**

In the retirement of Willard Austen, its Librarian, Cornell University loses an old and tried servant. Entering the library's service in 1888 as a page while still an undergraduate, he has for more than forty years been a member of its staff. Coming to the University more mature in years than do most of its students, he brought an experience in printing and in publishing that from the first were of great worth. In 1892 he was made an Assistant Librarian, and for many years there devolved upon him the care and oversight of the general reading room, a post in which his courtesy and tact and his ready sympathy with the needs of students made him invaluable. Especially during the troubled period when the privilege of drawing the library's books for home use was being extended to undergraduates, his tact, patience, and good temper were of the highest service to the whole University. On the business side, too, his contributions have been notable. His devices for the registration of borrowers and for the recording of loans, making it possible to know at any time the whereabouts of any volume, have revolutionized our methods and have been the envy of other libraries. In all matters, also, involving the use of taste, his sensitiveness to form and color have been of constant value. With these qualities it was inevitable that he should take much interest in library affairs at large and become a leader in the organizations and enterprises of librarians throughout the state and the country; and these associations brought him invitations to other posts. He was, however, too loyal to be tempted from the work begun at Cornell; and when, in 1915, Mr. George William Harris retired from the headship of the Cornell University Library Mr. Austen was promoted to his place. Long before this he had, with Mr. Harris's approval, added to his administrative duties lectures to students on the use of the library; and now he inherited, in addition, Mr. Harris's own course on the history of books and their making. In the early history of typography his own experience as a printer led him to take a special interest, and in this field he has added much to the resources of the library.

Now that his time for retirement has come it gratifies us to hope that the beauty of the site which he so wisely selected for his home will keep him still our neighbor, and we rejoice that his health gives us promise of years of fruitful companionship.

*Source: Records p. 1846, October 10, 1934 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, October, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Nine*

# Charles Babcock

— August 27, 1913

The following memorial minute was adopted by rising vote :

“On August 27th, a month before our reassembling, there passed from this life, in his eighty-fifth year, our oldest colleague, Professor Charles Babcock, for a quarter-century the head of our school of architecture.

“He was not a member of the original Faculty of Cornell; but it was only because his department had first to be called into existence. With its establishment, in 1871, he became its head; and from that day of poverty, when for long he was its sole instructor and with his own hands created much of its equipment, to that other in 1896, when he surrendered it, a full college of the University, to his successor, he was not only its guiding intellect, but its soul. His devotion to his art and to his students, the broad humanity of his interests, his sane and quiet judgment, that masculine gruffness in his deep voice which veiled his kindly heart and lent a piquancy to his playful humor, the sound culture and sturdy manhood that breathed in all he said or did, made him beloved by his pupils and by his fellow teachers. His influence was not confined to the work of instruction. As architect he gave us noble buildings which still adorn our Campus—Sage College, Sage Chapel with its memorial annex and apse, Lincoln and Franklin Halls—and as administrator he had a weighty, though always modest, voice in the shaping of the University as a whole.

“Nor can his colleagues forget his long career as rector to that little group which, in the days of our isolation, met weekly in the transept of Sage Chapel, or that frequent service at the Chapel’s lectern when any accident deprived us of a preacher, or yet that kindly thought for others’ needs, which, even more than these perhaps, made him in those days almost a college pastor.

“Since his retirement, he has dwelt among us still, a thoughtful, genial friend and neighbor, lending to our Campus the quiet dignity of his presence and to our social life the ripe charm of his reposeful character. They have been to us a benediction which we shall sadly miss, and of which we here record our grateful memory.”

*I. P. Church, G. L. Burr, C. A. Martin, Chairman*

*Source: Records, p. 607, October 15, 1913*

# Frank Arthur Barton

Colonel Frank Arthur Barton, Commandant and Professor of Military Science and Tactics

*July 5, 1869 — August 5th, 1921*

On August 5th, 1921, during the vacation period of the University, Frank Arthur Barton, Colonel United States Cavalry, died in the City Hospital of Ithaca. The Faculty at its first session on the reopening of the University places upon its minutes this record of its sense of loss and of its appreciation of Colonel Barton as Commandant and Professor of Military Science, as loyal Cornellian, and as colleague.

Colonel Barton was graduated from the Sibley College of Mechanical Engineering in 1891, was commissioned in the United States Army the same year, served as officer during the Spanish-American War and through the Philippine pacification campaign at the end of the nineties, and in 1904 the War Department detailed him to his Alma Mater as Commandant and Professor of Military Science and Tactics. After four years of successful service as Commandant, he returned to his regiment and later pursued with distinction advanced military studies in the School of the Line at Fort Leavenworth. During the World War the Government returned him to the University as Commandant, although on account of ill health he was retired from active service in 1917 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. As head of the Students Army Training Corps and as officer in charge of the inspection of the S.A.T.C. units in the Department of the East, he rendered the University and the nation invaluable assistance. On conclusion of the war he resumed his duties as Commandant of the Cornell unit of the Reserve Officers Training Corps, continuing in this capacity until the time of his death, and the high rating of the Cornell unit is largely due to his personality and administrative skill,

Colonel Barton exemplified the finest ideals of officer, gentleman, and citizen. In a rare degree he combined rigorous disciplinary standards with an instinctively genial tact which enabled him to maintain in the Corps an exceptional morale. He had an extraordinary insight into the hearts and minds of young men, and the breadth of his education brought him sympathetic contact with a great range of men in every walk of life. He had a genius for comradeship. With the buoyant, forward-looking spirit of youth, unshaken by ill health, he united the wisdom and sound judgment of a man ripened by wide experience. In his passing the Corps has lost a gifted and sympathetic leader, his fellow officers a genial comrade, and the faculty a beloved counselor and associate.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1248 Resolutions Adopted by The Faculty of Cornell University October, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-One*

Colonel U. S. Cavalry, Retired; In Cornell University, 1904-1908, 1917-1921



# Alvin Casey Beal

Professor of Floriculture

*November 30, 1872 — May 6, 1929*

The sudden death on May 6, 1919, of Dr. Alvin Casey Beal came as a great shock to the University community and is deeply deplored by his colleagues of the University Faculty. Born in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, November 30, 1872, Dr. Beal was graduated from the University of Illinois in 1897 with the degree of B. S. A. During the next two years he was foreman in the Horticultural Department of the Illinois Experiment Station in which capacity he gained experience in the practical side of the profession which he later followed. During the academic year of 1899-'00 he engaged in graduate work at Cornell University toward his M. S. degree, completing his studies later and receiving the degree in 1903. From 1900 to 1908 he was instructor in Floriculture in the University of Illinois. In 1909 he came to Cornell for further study and received the degree of Ph.D. in 1911. He became Assistant at this University in 1910, Assistant Professor of Floriculture in 1911, and Professor of Floriculture in 1913.

Professor Beal was greatly interested in the historical aspects of his science. He conducted a course for advanced students on the history and literature of floriculture and ornamental horticulture, devoted time to studies in this field during a recent leave of absence spent in Europe, and was at the time of his death planning to make the results of these studies available in book form.

He was primarily a research worker and devoted years to a monographic study of the types and varieties of the sweet pea and of the botany, history and evolution of the gladiolus. He had also made similar studies of the rose and the iris and had accumulated a great amount of data on these plants. He was a recognized authority on these groups.

Dr. Beal loved flowers and spent much of his time in the gardens watching them develop, noting their habits and variations, and with the prescience of a true investigator seizing upon those qualities that go to the making of a superior variety. In his death, Floriculture has lost a zealous investigator, and members of the Faculty a loyal and faithful colleague.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1589 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University June, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Nine*

# Charles Edwin Bennett

Professor of Latin In Cornell University

*April 6, 1858 — May 2, 1921*

It is with dismay and deep grief that we have learned of the sudden death, on the morning of Monday, May the second, at his home on our campus, of one of our most revered scholars, professor Charles Edwin Bennett. Almost without a premonition he passed in his sleep from life into death.

His quiet and studious career is known to us all. A graduate of Brown, the University of his native state and city, he carried further his scholarly training at Harvard, at Leipzig, at Berlin, at Heidelberg; then, after a brief apprenticeship as teacher and principal in secondary education and two or three years as a professor at the University of Wisconsin and at Brown, he entered, at thirty-four, on his long service as professor of Latin at Cornell. Since the summer of 1892, almost thirty-nine years, he has with rare distinction held that chair among us, honored and loved by all.

How high and rigorous were his standards as a teacher, how exacting his methods, how discriminating and sensitive his scholarship, need no pointing out. His books on Latin grammar and Latin composition, keep abreast of scholarship by revision and republication, his great work on the syntax of early Latin, his editions of classical authors, his exquisite translation of Horace, his many learned papers in philological journals, have made his name a household word throughout our land and widely known beyond the sea and have drawn to his class room a growing throng of students, many of them now in college chairs. He found time to collaborate with his colleague, Bristol, in an influential manual on the teaching of Greek and Latin in secondary schools and with his colleague, Hammond, in a charming version of the Characters of Theophrastus. Yet this large fruitfulness of his pen was never at sacrifice of attention to his students or his full share in the management of the University.

Less known, even to his colleagues, has been his good citizenship, his kindly civic helpfulness, his large and efficient part, as chairman of the Belgian Relief Committee of his county, in the activities of the great war, his genial comradeship in club and social circles. We shall miss his stately figure and his scholar's face; we shall miss his sincerity, his ripe judgment, his clear and chosen words; but most of all shall we miss his earnest, high and self-reliant manhood.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1214 Joint Resolutions Adopted by The Trustees And Faculty of Cornell University June, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-One*



**Charles Edwin Bennett**

## **John Bentley, Jr.**

Professor of Forest Engineering

*June 8, 1880 — July 26, 1933*

He was an able and stimulating teacher, beloved by his students and respected by his colleagues; a useful citizen. So may be summed up the life of John Bentley, Jr., Professor of Forest Engineering, whose death on July 26, 1933 terminated a span of more than twenty years of active, devoted, and loyal service to Cornell University and to education in forestry. It is impossible to measure Professor Bentley's influence, but it is certain that many foresters are today being guided by the force of his ideas and ideals. He had a clear, keen mind and a disciplined imagination. He played his part in the formative period of forestry in America. To Cornell University and to this community he contributed in many helpful ways. He will be missed by a wide circle of those who knew and loved him.

John Bentley, Jr. was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 8, 1880. In 1904 he was graduated from Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, with the degree Bachelor of Science, and in 1907 from Yale University with that of Master of Forestry. At Wesleyan he was awarded Phi Beta Kappa. At Yale he was elected to Sigma Xi.

Like many another graduate of the Yale Forest School of that time, Bentley soon joined the Federal Forest Service. For the next four years he was stationed in Colorado, serving in turn on several National Forests as Deputy Forest Supervisor, for much responsibility then rested on the shoulders of the younger men. He was one who helped to set the foundations. This experience gave him a background which was of great value to him in later years.

In January 1912. he came to Cornell, shortly after the reestablishment of forestry at this institution. In 1918 he was advanced to the rank of full professor. In his work in the Department of Forestry he contributed to all its activities, served faithfully on various college committees, and also bore his part in the affairs of the technical association of his profession, the Society of American Foresters. He wrote a number of bulletins in the College of Agriculture series and collaborated with two of his colleagues in a book, *Forest Management*, which is widely used in schools of forestry and by forest owners. During two of the World War years Professor Bentley, while on leave from Cornell, served as lecturer on lumbering at the Yale School of Forestry.

In civic activities Professor Bentley was never one to shirk responsibility. He served acceptably in local offices in the Village of Cayuga Heights and was active in movements for community betterment in Ithaca. But it was the teaching of students of professional forestry that lay nearest his heart. He had the happy faculty of quickly gaining the interest of his classes, and then by informal, comradely leadership, of drawing out latent abilities and guiding

these men skillfully in their preparation for their life work. On occasion he could be strict, for he was always actuated by high standards of accomplishment, to which he held himself rigidly. Professor Bentley's interest in the students did not, however, end with the classroom, nor with those in forestry. He was ever alert to lend a hand to any who needed encouragement or friendly counsel. Particularly was he concerned with those from other countries. For many years he was a faithful member of the Board of Directors of the Cornell University Religious Work.

By his ability as a teacher and by the sterling qualities of his character, John Bentley made a distinct place for himself in the life of Cornell University. His were substantial contributions. He will be gratefully remembered by his students, his colleagues, and the still wider circle of his other friends.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1815 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, November, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Three*

# James Ernest Boyle

*November 22, 1873 — September 18, 1938*

James Ernest Boyle was born November 22, 1873, on a farm near Boyle, Jefferson County, northeastern Kansas, the son of John and Mary Ann (Searl) Boyle. His family were pioneers in that region and the nearest town was named after them. His early years until he entered the University of Nebraska were spent on the farm, and he received the degree of A.B. in 1900. The A.M. he received from the University of Kansas in 1902 and the Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1904. From 1904 to 1916 he was professor of Economics and Political Science and head of the department in the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks. Here he was one of the founders and first president of the university co-operative store, the organizer and first president of the North Dakota Tax Association and State director for North Dakota at the National Conference on Marketing and Farm Credit. He was led more and more into the study of marketing and particularly of farm marketing problems. He was field agent in marketing for the North Dakota Experiment Station at Fargo during 1916-17, and the next year, 1917-18, he was a member of the Bureau of Markets of the United States Department of Agriculture. In 1918 he returned to teaching and came to Cornell as extension professor of Rural Economy and thus became the University's first teacher of marketing. Since 1923 he had been professor of Rural Economy, devoting all his time to teaching and study.

His early and continued contact with the marketing problems of agriculture made him a world authority, particularly on the produce exchanges, and resulted in such special publications as *Speculation and the Chicago Board of Trade*, 1920, and *Cotton and the New Orleans Cotton Exchange*, 1934. He had lately been commissioned by the Cuban government to study the Cuban sugar industry. He was chairman of a committee of the National Association of Manufacturers investigating the relation of chain stores to farmers. Another side of his teaching activities resulted in his *Agricultural Economics*, 1921. In late years the results of his studies have been presented to more popular audiences in the *Atlantic Monthly*, the *Saturday Evening Post*, and other journals. In these and other articles he appears as a keen critic of the governmental agrarian policy in this country. His criticism brought on attacks and threats in both state and nation.

Among his activities at home was his presidency of the Research Club. In the town, during the existence of the National Recovery Administration, he was the permanent chairman of the Ithaca Compliance Board. For some years he was the presiding officer of the open forums conducted by the First Presbyterian Church.

His relation with students was of the closest and most intimate nature and particularly to foreign students, Chinese and other Orientals, he was a guide and mentor. Toward his colleagues he was generous, kindly, and unassuming. Though he had strong convictions he always sought the honest opinions of others. Where he saw intellectual dishonesty or chicanery he was a fearless and vigorous critic.

Professor Boyle died September 18, 1938, at his home, 115 Cayuga Heights Road, after a long illness. He had married Mary Effie Lytle of Topeka, Kansas, September 13, 1902. Surviving with the widow are two daughters, Elizabeth (Vassar, 1929), the wife of Arthur B. Rogers (Cornell, D.V.M., 1934) and Louise (Vassar, 1931).

# George Prentice Bristol

Professor of Greek

1856 — May 16, 1927

Upon the death of George Prentice Bristol, Professor of Greek, Emeritus, the members of the University Faculty mourn a beloved colleague. His worth as a man, his long career as scholar and executive, his fortitude, in secluding and hopeless illness, all enhance our sense of personal loss.

As a teacher he was noteworthy for lively knowledge of the Greek language and civilization, for thoroughness and frankness in the classroom, but not less for human sympathy. His interest in his students was not obscured by interest in their studies.

As an executive, Registrar, Director of the Summer Session, Chairman of the Committee on the Relations of the University to Secondary Schools, President of the New York State Teachers Retirement Board, and in many minor posts, he was courteous, punctual, and untiring. His attention to business, his judgment of measures and men, his devotion not merely to his chosen subject but to the University as a whole, all these made him a man deserving well of our academic commonwealth. His memory is sweet.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1507 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell Univ., June, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Seven*

## **RETIREMENT STATEMENT**

The Committee (Professors H. L. Jones, chairman, and R. M. Ogden) appointed to draft resolutions upon the retirement of Professor Bristol submitted the following report, which was adopted by rising vote:

“At the end of the present academic year George Prentiss Bristol, Professor of Greek in Cornell University, retires from active service. In recognition of his long and useful career as teacher and executive, and of his worth as man and scholar, we the members of the University Faculty desire to place on record this testimonial of appreciation.

Already an experienced teacher, he joined the Faculty of this University in the year 1888, and ten years later was promoted to a full professorship. As a teacher he is noted, not only for his ripe and ready knowledge of the Greek language and civilization, and for the thoroughness and directness of his instruction, but also for his sympathetic and inspiring personality.



The authorities of the University, early seeing in him executive ability of a high order, chose him for additional responsibilities in which he has served the institution with rare skill and efficiency. The growth of the Summer Session of which he was long the Director, (1906-1918), and the high standards which he maintained, constitute a distinct and permanent tribute to his vision and sound judgment. Later on, in addition to his duties as Professor of Greek and as Director of the Summer Session, he was appointed Director of the School of Education (1910-1916), Chairman of the Bureau of Recommendations, Chairman of the Committee on Relations to Secondary Schools, while he has also served as chairman of many other important committees. By reason of his many-sided contacts with Faculty and students, and with teachers and school authorities, he has established most happy relations, not only between members of the University community itself, but also between the University and the secondary schools from which our students are drawn.

But despite the heavy load of administrative duties, he has ever remained a true Hellenist, distinguished philologist and devoted teacher, and in these capacities has won the respect and admiration of all. He has edited an excellent text-book, entitled *Selected Orations of Lysias*, and has published, in collaboration with our lamented colleague, Charles Edwin Bennett, a most useful work on the Teaching of Greek and Latin in Secondary Schools; and since 1891 has been one of the editors of the Cornell Studies in Classical Philology.

His helpfulness, his courtesy, his frankness, his punctuality, his close attention to business, his keen insight into measures and men, his breadth of view, and his loyalty to the University as a whole, will long be remembered by students and teachers alike. And now, upon his withdrawal from active service in the University, we, his colleagues, tender him our assurances of affection, and express the hope that he may continue to dwell in these college precincts, to brighten them with his familiar face and figure.”

*Source: Records p. 1212, May 11, 1921. Adopted by the Board of Trustees, June 4, 1921.*

## George Lincoln Burr

*January 30, 1857 — June 27, 1938*

George Lincoln was born in Oramel, New York, January 30, 1857. Preparing for college at Cortland Academy in Homer, New York, he entered Cornell University in 1877, graduated in 1881, and was then appointed instructor in History and personal secretary to President Andrew D. White. The years from 1884 to 1888 he spent chiefly in Europe, studying in German, Swiss, and French universities, and collecting books and manuscripts for President White's library. He became assistant professor of History in 1889, professor of History in 1892, professor of Mediaeval History in 1902, and John Stambaugh Professor of History in 1919. From 1890 until his death he was librarian of the President White Library, and from 1924 to 1927 faculty member of the Board of Trustees of Cornell University. In 1896 he served as historical expert on the American commission to determine the boundary of Venezuela. He was associate editor of the *American Historical Review* from 1905 to 1916, and president of the American Historical Association in 1916. In 1904 he received the degree of LL.D. from the University of Wisconsin, and in 1905 the degree of Litt.D. from Western Reserve University. He retired from active teaching in 1922, and died in Ithaca June 27, 1938, at the age of eighty-one years.

As a scholar Professor Burr early acquired an international reputation. His grasp of the general field of history was exceptional, his mastery of historical literature and of historical geography was such as few historians possess, and his knowledge of the special fields of Mediaeval history, the Protestant Reformation, and the history of witchcraft and religious persecution was unrivalled. Much of his time and energy as a scholar was devoted to labors that did not result in publication. As secretary to President White, he contributed so much to the preparation of *The Warfare of Science and Theology* that his name would have been on the title page if he had been willing. He was chiefly responsible for making the President White Library one of the richest collections in the world in the fields of the French Revolution, church history, and the history of witchcraft and persecution; and his marginal notes in the books of that library add substantially to its value for scholars. His published works, all of high distinction, include many articles in periodicals and the collections of learned societies. In addition, he edited *Narratives of the Witchcraft Cases, 1648-1706*; and just before his death he finished reading proof for a work on which he had been engaged for more than twenty years—the completion of an unfinished manuscript on the history of witchcraft left in his care by the late Henry C. Lea.

Professor Burr was a great teacher as well as a great scholar. He once said that a man could teach history or he could teach *through* history. He himself could and did do both. He discouraged his students from taking notes of his lectures; the essential facts he preferred them to get from books; in the class-room he would have them listen to him and try to understand what he was saying. Often enough, no doubt, they failed to understand him fully; but, as William James said of the undergraduates who listened to the lectures of Josiah Royce, they must have had a feeling that something big was going on. Like the rest of us, he was not always at his best. Graduate students who listened to his undergraduate lectures said that he sometimes became so absorbed in erudite comment on the mysteries of bibliography that the hour ended before the lecture began. But not infrequently, getting happily started on some subject of human import and forgetting the formidably bibliographed outlines and the piled-up books which he always brought to class, he would speak as one inspired. Many of us know it well—the moving eloquence with which he would on occasion expound or defend before this faculty the causes that were dear to his heart.

George Burr—how imperishably the name is written into the history of this university and the life of this community! What enduring memories are for many of us associated with this vivid and arresting, this always human and altogether lovable personality! The short, compact, powerful figure of the man, ceaselessly active, tireless as a dynamo, at any hour of the day to be seen slipping in or out of the library, hurrying across the campus, hurrying down the hill, and, with unabated and triumphant vitality, hurrying up again. The richly stored and alert mind, keen as a Damascus blade, slaying the spurious and the inept with the deftest wit, pouring forth a wealth of relevant and curious lore for the illumination of matters great or small, and, on rare occasions, exploding into detonating wrath when goaded past endurance by the senselessly stupid, the malicious, or the cruel act. The indefatigable scholar and bibliophile, browsing and brooding in the stacks, with the still concentration of the mystic poring over some rare manuscript, or with loving touch caressing the frayed covers of ancient books. And not least the fellow man, ever friendly and ever gracious, meeting with equal courtesy and consideration the humble and the exalted, and ever ready with unfailing generosity to lend himself to the promotion of any worthy cause or the relief of any human need. No man ever better exemplified the rule of plain living and high thinking. No man was ever more tolerant of other's frailties, or less tolerant of his own. Valiant and intrepid crusader in the cause of human freedom and enlightenment! If there be any intangible possession that distinguishes this university it is the tradition of freedom united with responsibility—freedom to do what one chooses, responsibility for what it is that one chooses to do. On this memorial occasion it is altogether fitting for us to recall that no one ever did more than George Lincoln Burr to endow Cornell University with this priceless possession.

# George Chapman Caldwell

*August 14, 1834 — September 7, 1907*

“The Faculty of Cornell University inscribes the following tribute to the memory and worth of the late George Chapman Caldwell, Professor of Agricultural Chemistry in the institution from its inauguration in 1868 up to his retirement as emeritus in 1902, of analytical chemistry since 1875 and of general chemistry since 1891.

Educated in Harvard and Göttingen, after a teaching experience in Antioch College, O., and the Agricultural College of Pa., he was the first professor appointed to the faculty of Cornell, where he presided for 34 years over the Chemical Department, while it grew from a small class-room and laboratory until it taxed the capacity of two large buildings with a teaching staff of 21 — one of the leading centers of chemical education and achievement in the world.

In the chemical profession he early took high rank, his book on agricultural chemical analysis, the first work on that subject in English, was at once accepted as an authority and aroused an active interest in the important field which had been so brilliantly exploited by Liebig in Germany. His text books on analytical chemistry received a corresponding wide appreciation and adoption.

It was characteristic of Professor Caldwell that he kept himself in closest touch with all advances in a rapidly developing “and almost illimitable subject, and unfolded this to his students in class room and laboratory, inculcating and enforcing such precision of method and thoroughness as would make all work of a full and permanent value. The many students, trained under him, and who now occupy prominent positions in teaching, in government service, in agricultural experiment stations and in collegiate and industrial positions, and their uniform success, bear forcible testimony to the efficiency and value of Professor Caldwell’s teaching.

His varied and comprehensive acquaintance with all divisions of the field of chemistry and the critical acumen with which he had worked our each subject received deserved recognition when, in 1892, he was elected to the presidency of the American Chemical Society. This great capacity for accurate and excellent work was early recognized by the Faculty, in which he served as Secretary from 1872 to 1886. The intimate acquaintance thus secured with all departments of the University work rendered him a trusted and valued adviser in all matters of university policy.

Not of an assertive nature Dr. Caldwell stood out as a great man on the basis of strenuous work, thoroughness in every detail, accuracy in every result, and a sound judgment in seeking and arriving at the truth.

His social life harmonized with his professional. His was the quiet, abiding friendship, the valued advice, the sterling example, the safe guidance. His students owed their prospects in life no less to this worthy influence than to the great excellence of his instruction, and everywhere they unite in thankfulness that they were brought under the influence of such a man. His name is to us a memory of the early builders of the University, a man deeply imbued with the scientific spirit, one who inspired his students to their best efforts in spite of the personally unostentatious disposition, a sincere lover of truth, and a worker who never wearied in well-doing.

*James Law, B. G. Wilder, L. M. Dennis*

*Source: Records, p. 402, December 13, 1907*

# Rolla Clinton Carpenter

Professor of Mechanical Engineering

*June 16, 1852 — January 19, 1919*

The members of the Board of Trustees and the Faculty of Cornell University wish to express themselves for record upon the death of Professor Rolla Clinton Carpenter.

Professor Carpenter came to Cornell in 1890 to take charge of the Mechanical Laboratory of Sibley College and continued to direct this work until his retirement in June 1917. During this time the laboratory grew from very small beginnings to its present size, with its large material equipment and its efficient courses of instruction. In all this development Professor Carpenter showed wisdom and sound judgment in the selection of his teachers, in the building up of material equipment and in the planning and conducting of the courses of instruction.

Outside the University his counsel was widely sought by the government, in large engineering undertakings, and in patent legislation. Thus his influence has been far-reaching both in engineering education and practice.

He was active as member and committeeman in several of the national engineering societies, and was honored by election to their highest offices.

In all personal relations Professor Carpenter was always kindly and helpful; he was a pleasant companion and a loyal friend.

This loss falls heavily upon all who worked with him or who had the privilege of his friendship, but especially upon his family to whom it is desired here to express profound sympathy.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 912, 1036 Joint Resolutions Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University January, Nineteen Hundred and Nineteen.*

Cornell University 1890—1917; Professor Emeritus 1917—1919

# Ralph Charles Henry Catterall

— August 2, 1914

The Professor of History, Professor Burr, on behalf of the Committee appointed by the President (Burr, chairman, Hammond, Lunt) to prepare resolutions on the death of Professor Catterall, reported the following, which were adopted by rising vote:

“ At the beginning of August, just as the tidings of impending war startled us from across the sea, there came to us from the West the dismaying news of the death, during the sojourn with a friend, of our colleague, Professor Ralph Charles Henry Catterall. Since 1902 he had held at Cornell the chair of Modern European and of English History, and from his arrival to take up his work, he stood among us for a decade the very impersonation of manly force and manly character. When two years ago, at the very prime of his years and his ambition, there fell upon him and us the crushing knowledge that his health was broken and his life henceforth precarious, the shock was common to us all. But he was by temper a fighter, and how indomitable has been since then his fight for life and how proud and firm his persistence in his work, has been our marvel. It has deepened the high esteem which from the first had been our tribute to his sane scholarship, his sturdy manhood, his uncommon powers of thought and speech. No more virile, no more masculine, soul has ever had a place among us. None perhaps has had a wider influence, not only over the student body but throughout the alumni. Brief, when measured by years, as was his career among us, and cut short in the glory of its prime, we can never forget that stalwart figure, those rugged features, that keen and often mocking humor, that sound and sterling sense, that freedom from all pettiness, that outspoken impatience of sham, that loyalty to friends and to convictions, which were to us the essence of the man and shall remain his message.”

*Source: Records, p. 644, October 14, 1914*

# George Walter Cavanaugh

*February 4, 1870 — July 2, 1938*

The retirement of George Walter Cavanaugh at the end of the last academic year, and his death on July 2, 1938, brought to a close an uninterrupted service of forty-seven years.

He was born in Watertown, New York, February 4, 1870. After graduation from the Watertown High School he taught school for one year at Rutland, New York. He graduated from Cornell University in 1896 with the degree of bachelor of science. In 1891, while still a junior in the University, he was appointed assistant chemist in the Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station. He held this position until 1903, when he was appointed assistant professor of Agricultural Chemistry. In 1909 he was made professor of Agricultural Chemistry, the position which he held until his retirement.

The development of the College of Agriculture to its present position was made possible to a large degree by those members of the staff who, in earlier days, carried science to the practical farmer. In this field Professor Cavanaugh played a large role. His engaging personality, his faculty of making clear the application of scientific facts to agriculture, and his interesting presentation, made him at all times a welcome lecturer at farmers' institutes.

Through his intimate association with the farmers of the State Professor Cavanaugh early realized the necessity of utilizing surplus agricultural products. The economical production of powdered milk was an important development resulting from his investigations.

From the beginning of the University, agricultural chemistry was recognized as fundamental to instruction in agriculture and later became an essential part of the Experiment Station. On the retirement of Professor Caldwell in 1903 Professor Cavanaugh succeeded him in the field of agricultural chemistry. Professor Cavanaugh was essentially a teacher. His subject matter was presented in an interesting and convincing manner. He was gracious and generous, and took a keen personal interest in his students. He will be remembered by a host of former students with affection and respect.

As a citizen, Professor Cavanaugh was a man of broad interests. He possessed a kindly disposition and a keen wit, was sympathetic and tolerant, and always ready to serve his fellow men. His influence on the life of the community in which he lived will not soon be forgotten.



# George Ray Chamberlain

Assistant Professor of Freehand Drawing

— *July 15, 1929*

In the death of Professor George R. Chamberlain Cornell University has met a decided loss.

The fine influence that he had on his many pupils will always be remembered by them with deep gratitude.

His colleagues appreciated his utter devotion to his work, the steadfastness of his character, the kindness of his heart, and his ever ready cooperation.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1599 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, November, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Nine*

# Irving Porter Church

Professor of Applied Mechanics and Hydraulics

— May 8, 1931

In the death of Professor Irving Porter Church, Cornell University has lost one of her most distinguished graduates and most valued teachers. His whole career was spent in the service of his Alma Mater.

Graduated in 1873, a member of the instructing staff since 1876, he gave to Cornell the benefit of his exceptional training as a mathematician and of his rare qualities as a teacher. When he retired in 1916 he had taught here forty years, first as assistant and associate professor of Civil Engineering and later as professor of Applied Mechanics and Hydraulics.

He enriched the literature of his profession by works of lasting merit in which his keen analytical mind, his matchless gifts of exposition are strikingly illustrated. His pupils have attained eminence in every field of engineering.

The alumni of the College of Civil Engineering expressed their appreciation of his services shortly after his retirement when they presented to the University a portrait of their teacher and the Irving P. Church Fund to purchase books for the library of the College.

Another high honor came to him in 1919 when he was awarded the Benjamin G. Lammé gold medal “for accomplishment in technical teaching and actual advancement of the art of technical training.” This medal, given by the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, was a tribute of the whole profession to the man who had been called “the father of mechanics” on account of his epoch-making book *The Mechanics of Engineering*.

The essential doctrine of this book as well as of his teachings was that all good design must be based on the principles of mechanics.

His students were unanimous in praising his qualities as a teacher; clarity of presentation, rigor of demonstration, unlimited patience, unfailing courtesy were outstanding characteristics. They remember with especial gratitude that he spared neither his time nor his labor in helping them individually to understand difficult questions and to solve what seemed to them insoluble problems.

Their respect for the teacher was equaled only by their admiration and affection for the man whose quiet manner and self-effacing modesty won the hearts of all who knew him.

Science was only one aspect of his versatile personality. Nothing in the realm of literature and art was indifferent to him. He read good books. He displayed a peculiar and persistent interest in modern languages. Although he made only one short trip abroad he spoke well and understood both French and German. He loved and practiced the arts. Painting was one of the favorite diversions of his later years, and his home was filled with his copies of great masterpieces.

He was very fond of music. He played the violin. Until the very last he found solace in listening to melodies that had always enchanted him.

This unassuming and retiring man whose life was so full of work and who seemed absorbed in his many avocations found time to interest himself in the activities of the city. No good cause, no work of community interest or of social service appealed to him in vain. He gave generously and cheerfully. His acts of kindness to humble folk, his interest in deserving students, his love of children are remembered by all who knew him.

His last illness had kept him confined to his home for two years, without depriving him of the companionship of his family and his friends. Those who called on him found him always resigned, serene, and smiling. To the end he was deeply interested in everything that concerned the University. He ever remained the gentle, friendly, and human soul that his colleagues and pupils will ever mourn and remember.

*Source: Faculty Records, pps. 760, 1699. Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, September, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-One*

## Peter Walter Claassen

*March 17, 1886 — August 16, 1937*

Peter Walter Claassen was born at Hillsboro, Kansas, March 17, 1886. He began his collegiate work at McPherson College but transferred to the University of Kansas, from which institution he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1913. Although his major work as an undergraduate was in chemistry, on graduation he accepted a position as Assistant State Entomologist of Kansas and remained at the University of Kansas, continuing graduate work in his newly chosen field. He was granted a master's degree in 1915. He came to Cornell University in the autumn of 1915 as assistant in general biology and took graduate work in entomology, receiving his doctor's degree in 1918. For one year he returned to the University of Kansas as assistant professor of entomology, but after receiving his doctor's degree he retained his connection with Cornell University for the remainder of his life. During the academic year 1924-25 while on leave from the University, he taught at Tsing Hua College, Peking, China, where he reorganized the work of that institution in the biological sciences. In the scientific societies of his field, he played an active part.

The subject of his doctor's thesis was an ecological study of the insect inhabitants of the cattail, in the course of which work he uncovered many interesting and important facts about the numerous insect species which invade this plant. Later he undertook special studies in the Plecoptera or stone flies, his papers on this order of insects including a monograph of the nymphal stages. Shortly before his death he completed a manuscript for a catalogue of the stone flies of the world. Although chiefly interested in the taxonomic aspects of these problems he never lost sight of the possible economic applications of entomology. This is shown in his work on the grasshoppers of Kansas and his studies upon the animal life in streams polluted by milk and factory wastes.

This cold array of facts about his vocational and avocational activities fails to indicate the nature of the life and work of Professor Claassen. Not only was he a skilled observer in scientific fields, but he was outstanding as a teacher. His strength in teaching, whether formally in classes or elsewhere, rested chiefly on his happy disposition, his jovial informality, and his friendly attitude to all persons at all times. He was known affectionately to his friends and associates by his nickname and the attribute which led to this, which might easily have been mistaken by those who knew him less well as a lack of dignity, in no degree reduced the affectionate appreciation of his merit as a student and teacher. Few men have surpassed or equaled him as a friend of all his associates of whatsoever rank, and because he showed himself a friend, others were friendly toward him. In social affairs among his associates

and students he was a natural leader. That leadership was as natural to him as breath itself, and he showed unusual skill in using it to the advancement of his research and teaching.

The sudden death of Professor Claassen in Ithaca, New York, on August 16, 1937, followed closely on a trip which he took to the Pacific Coast while on sabbatic leave, on which he visited many old friends and made many new ones. On this trip, as usual, he assiduously collected insects of his chosen Order and took every possible occasion better to prepare himself for his later work by consultations with those in similar work in numerous institutions across the country. He seemingly looked forward to many more years of service for Cornell University, but these hopes were blasted. By his death Cornell University loses a loyal supporter, an ardent worker, and a friendly spirit. His many friends among students, faculty and fellow citizens mourn his death but are happier and better because of their association with him. He leaves a wife and two children who are inspired by the memory of his life.

The Faculty of Cornell University records its appreciation of the many years of service of their former associate and the sense of loss which members of the faculty feel in his death. The Faculty extends to members of the immediate family of Professor Claassen this expression of its sympathy in their loss.

*Resources: Faculty Records, p. 2004 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, November, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Seven*

# William C. Cleveland

Professor of Civil Engineering

— *January 16, 1873*

“After voting that the usual order of business be suspended, the following preamble and resolution were approved and passed.

“Whereas the death of Professor William C. Cleveland has removed from us one of our number, who from the first opening of the University has labored faithfully for its interests and built up his Department to a condition of great efficiency, and

“Whereas, we desire to record our testimony to this fidelity in the discharge of his duty, and to his ability and purity of character.

“Resolved, that in him the University has lost a most able professor and excellent instructor, and that we his colleagues have lost a friend of great intellectual attainments, pure and amiable character, and noble aspirations; and that we tender to his family the assurances of our warmest sympathy in their sorrow, and of our belief that the influence of our departed friend will live long after him, in those who came under his care.

“The secretary was requested to send a copy of this resolution to the wife of the deceased.

“Voted that after passing upon the petitions from students, the Faculty adjourn in respect for the memory of our deceased colleague.”

*Source: Fac. Rec. p.33-volume B*

“Voted that Prof. Wait be requested to accompany Mrs. Cleveland and the remains of her husband to Mt. Auburn on behalf of the Faculty.”

*Source: Fac. Rec. B34*

# Anna Botsford Comstock

Professor of Nature Study

— *August 24, 1930*

Anna Botsford Comstock, born on a farm in western New York, spent her childhood years among the fields and woods of a beautiful countryside. Here she learned the haunts and habits of the native wild life, came to love and foster domestic animals of the farm, and grew in sympathetic understanding of the problems of farm life. She was always intensely interested in men and women, and particularly in the welfare and education of children.

Entering Cornell University almost at its beginning she began the long period of devoted service that closed with a lecture to her summer class in Nature Literature only nine days before her death. She early began the study of the art of wood engraving in order to illustrate the entomological textbooks of her husband, John Henry Comstock, and achieved marked distinction as an artist, especially in her work representing the delicate texture of the bodies and wings of butterflies. She had a large share in the early extension movement in nature study and agriculture and undertook the leadership of the work in nature study in the University at its beginning. Among her varied and rich interests nature study became the chief field of her activity as writer, lecturer, editor, and teacher of teachers.

Mrs. Comstock became endeared to a wide circle of friends beyond the possibilities of merely professional contacts through the hospitality of the home which for half a century was a rendezvous for her students and those of her husband. Here she received and entertained with that gracious sympathy and understanding that made every guest a real participant in the life of a lovely home.

In an eminent degree Mrs. Comstock possessed the quality of warm and helpful friendship. Her long life in this community attached her to a remarkably wide circle of friends, all of whom became admirers. Her personality enriched her work as well as her relationships. Her interests were greatly varied and she touched life at many diverse points with the skill of the artist, the warmth of rich enthusiasms, and the emotions of the poet. To all her associates in Cornell University her memory will remain a blessed experience, and to generations of students she will continue to be an inspiring example. We are all conscious that a great soul has passed.

As a mark of profound respect, we, her colleagues of the University Faculty wish to place in permanent form upon their minutes this tribute to a life of service to the State, the Nation, and the University.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1657 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, December, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty*

Retired: June 1922

# John Henry Comstock

Professor of Entomology

— *March 20, 1931*

In the death of Professor John Henry Comstock on March 20, 1931, Cornell University has lost the scholar who perhaps more than any other embodied the aims of her founder and the spirit of her earliest years. Fatherless from his infancy and reared mainly by strangers, he spent his youth largely as a sailor on the Great Lakes with but winters for schooling, and his higher education had to be won without financial aid from others. Thus he built up the self-reliance, the tireless energy, the concentration, and efficiency so characteristic of his whole career; and thus there came to him, as to few men, power of observation, skill of touch, boundless persistence, and a rare union of quickness, even impatience, with sympathetic insight and considerate helpfulness.

Already while a sailor he had found spare time for the study of plants and of insects, and he came to the young University a ripe student in these fields. Here, under the encouragement of Dr. Wilder, then in charge of biology at Cornell, he developed so swiftly that he was but half through his undergraduate years when at the request of his fellow students he was set at giving a course on insects. This was but the beginning of a professional career which later assumed world-wide significance. His work as an investigator began to express itself in published papers as early as 1871, and his ability and enthusiasm in research grew with the years. This is indicated by his papers on the *Coccidae* (1880, 1883), his essays on *The Descent of the Lepidoptera* (1892), and on *Evolution and Taxonomy* (1893), and by his papers in collaboration with J. G. Needham on the wings of insects (1899). Subsequent papers embodying the results of researches on spiders appeared regularly during his later years. These culminated in the publication of “*The Spider Book*” (1912.) Following his retirement in 1914 he devoted the remaining years to the rounding out of his life’s work. The results of his long years of research on the wings of insects were finally brought together in the form of a book, “*The Wings of Insects*” (1918), probably his chief contribution of pure research. His last years were devoted to the writing of his final work, “*An Introduction to Entomology*.” Happily this was completed before his last illness.

Professor Comstock never engaged in controversy nor did he criticize the work of others. He did his own work as well as he knew how, and with faith in it he let all adverse criticism pass in silence. On the other hand, no one was franker to acknowledge a mistake than he, for accuracy was almost a fetish with him. Moreover he never appropriated the work of others.



Professor Comstock was one of the earliest teachers of entomology in the United States; and his ideals and standards have exerted a profound influence on the teaching of entomology in this country. His early struggles in self-education undoubtedly begot in him the habit of clear, precise, logical arrangement in his own mind of the problem in which he was interested. As a result, his lectures were models of simplicity, clearness, and conciseness. This logical quality of mind, together with his infectious enthusiasm and his personal interest in his students, made him a great teacher, and this characteristic, together with his experience as a teacher, lay at the root of his success as a writer of text-books. His greatest service to the University and to the world may but be expressed in this brief sentence: He was a trainer and inspirer of men.

*Source: Faculty Records, pps. 636, 1690 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, September, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-One*

## Ezra Cornell

Founder of The University And President of The Board of Trustees From Its Founding in 1863 Until His Death

— *December 9, 1874*

On the occasion of the death of Ezra Cornell the Faculty wishes to place upon record this expression of its feelings with regard to the Founder of the University.

Under quiet, undemonstrative manners and entire freedom from obtrusiveness he possessed a will of unusual strength and a character of great earnestness, unselfishness and purity. With little education besides that which he derived from observation and intercourse with men, he accomplished with sagacity, breadth, and boldness a great amount of varied and useful work. Usefulness, indeed, and the power of doing good to society seemed to be the criterion by which he directed his efforts. In the improvement of the agriculture of the State through successful experiments in farming, and by the introduction of better breeds of cattle, and the manufacture of improved farming implements; in his development of telegraphic communication over the country; in his extensive railroad enterprises to build up the place of his residence; in the formation of the Cornell Library and the gift of ample resources for its support, and above all in the establishment of this University do we see him from his beginnings in poverty and hard work, through wealth and more difficult labors always identified with the progress of society.

This institution proves his deep interest especially in the working classes, and his conviction that their elevation and happiness as well as the prosperity of the community are based on intellectual improvement. His sympathies with the poor nerved his efforts to educate manual labor, and lie at the foundation of one of the greatest gifts for purposes of education ever made by any man in his life time. Under the severest trials of heart and brain and nerve, he was supported by the determination to help the world.

We know that he has succeeded, we recognize the nobility of his aspirations and the wisdom of his plans, and trust that his good influence may never cease. We cannot but believe that though his physical life has ended, and his form has departed from among us, his love of his kind, his unselfishness and devotion to the general good will long live in blessings through centuries to come.

*Source: Fac. Rec. B143*

# Hiram Corson

— June 15, 1911

(Retired: 1902)

The Trustees of Cornell University desire to record their appreciation of the services of the late Professor Hiram Corson, to the University and their regard for his personal character and influence.

When Professor Corson came to the University in 1870, only two years had elapsed since its opening. Although provision had been made from the beginning for the teaching of the ancient and modern languages and English literature, the public regarded the new institution largely as a scientific and technical school. It was of the utmost benefit to the University that so early in its career a scholar of the established literary reputation of Hiram Corson should have given to it his loyal and unselfish services, — services that extended through a period of activity of thirty-three years, and of eight years of scholarly retirement. During this time Professor Corson displayed an extraordinary range of intellectual ability, teaching the philological elements of the Anglo-Saxon and English languages, the formal side of rhetoric, the history of the literature and the literature itself.

Gifted with a voice of wonderful sweetness and power, and with a dramatic instinct of the highest order, he was one of the greatest public readers ever heard in this country. Through this marvelous power of vocal expression he made literature interpret itself and convey its message to the heart and mind.

The influence of his unique personality was equally deep with that of his teaching. In an age whose material interests were increasing with alarming rapidity he stood as a representative of a higher order of things, — things unseen and immaterial, the spiritual elements in the nature of man. It was his mission to interpret these elements in literature and to awaken a response in his hearers.

*Source: Resolutions passed by the Board of Trustees of Cornell University, June 21, 1911. (From Minutes of Board of Trustees, p. 342)*

## Pol N. Coryllos

*November 2, 1880 — July 26, 1938*

On July 26, 1938, a cerebral hemorrhage closed the career of Pol N. Coryllos, since 1923 a professor of Clinical Surgery in the Cornell University Medical College.

Dr. Coryllos was born in Patras, Greece, on November 2, 1880. His college and medical education was obtained at Athens, where he received a medical degree in 1900. In the same year he went to Paris, became a French citizen, obtained a bachelor's, a master's and a doctor of Philosophy degree from the Sorbonne, and a second degree of M.D. from the University of Paris in 1914. During this time he served as an instructor in Anatomy from 1902-1910, an instructor in Pathology from 1909-1911, and an assistant in Gynecology under Dr. Jean Louis Faure from 1910-1912.

In 1912, during the Balkan war, he went to Greece as a volunteer. He was commissioned captain in the medical service of the Greek army, and was appointed director of an ambulance unit of 75 beds. He organized this ambulance unit as a mobile hospital, thus bringing surgery to the wounded, which was contrary to the principle of that time of transporting the wounded to the surgeon. This hospital was the precursor of the underground advance posts that were used during the World War. He was thus able to treat abdominal, thoracic, and head wounds within a comparatively short time after injury. His experiences were published in a number of articles and in book form in Paris in 1914 under the title *Preventive Trepanation in Bullet Wounds of the Skull*. For this he was awarded the gold medal of the Academy of Paris.

At the end of the Balkan War he resumed his hospital position in Paris. In 1914 he was a lieutenant in the French army, serving from August 1914 to December 1916 at Dieppe, Bar-le-duc, and Verdun. In December 1916 he was sent by the French Government as a member of a special mission to Russia to organize the surgical service at the Russo-Rumanian front. He was given the medical direction of the section of Padureni and organized the combined Russian and Rumanian hospitals at the front. In March 1918 he was recalled to France, was promoted to the rank of major, and served at Chateau-Thierry until the Armistice. Immediately after the Armistice, at the request of the Greek Government he was sent to Greece on a special mission to organize the surgical service in the Greek army. He was appointed a professor of surgery in the medical college of the University of Athens and surgeon-general of the army. During this time he devoted himself principally to the study of wounds of the chest, for which he had organized a special surgical center. As evidence of the appreciation of his services during these

years he could wear, although he never did, seven decorations from the country of his nativity, one from Serbia, one from Montenegro, three from Rumania, four from Russia, and three from France, a total of nineteen.

The question naturally arises, why did Dr. Coryllos, occupying such high positions in his native country, leave Greece and come to America. It was the same reason which has directed so many to our shores since the very beginning—politics. Dr. Coryllos was by birth, training, and personal conviction a believer in the principles of democracy, and so became a friend and supporter of Venizelos, the leader of the antiroyalist or republican party of Greece. In 1922 this party suffered an eclipse and Dr. Coryllos had to follow his leader into exile, not a permanent exile, for he was repeatedly besought by his countrymen to return and was decorated by the Greek Government as late as 1936.

Such was the remarkable career of a remarkable man. In a way it was a handicap, for unless one knew the intensity of his training, the breadth of his experience, his linguistic accomplishments, and his unparalleled memory for literature and clinical cases, it was impossible to believe that one mind could encompass so much, and this of course led to mental question and reservation concerning him. His incomplete mastery of spoken English made it difficult to follow him, thereby increasing the listener's difficulty in evaluating the man. But to those who knew him well enough to gain an insight into his vast and varied experience, who knew the background and ideals of the man, he stood revealed as an example of the highest type of Old World gentleman. If hard work is the essence of genius, then Dr. Coryllos was a genius, for there could not be a more energetic and indefatigable worker. Interested in all phases of medicine, he was especially enthusiastic in his chosen field of Thoracic Surgery, an interest which, as we have noted, began in Athens. During his connection with Cornell he did a great amount of research in this field. Time alone can be the ultimate judge of the value of any such work. It can be said now, at any rate, that his work stimulated many others to an interest in the problem. His work was honestly, thoroughly, painstakingly performed.

We can share with his native country a sincere regret that one of the best sons of the land which has produced so many men of note for so many centuries should be taken at the comparatively early age of 57. We can extend to his widow and daughter our profound sympathy. This much only can we do. We can never replace him.

# John Craig

— *August 10, 1912*

“The University Faculty of Cornell University desire to give expression to their deep sorrow at the loss of their colleague, Professor John Craig, and their appreciation of his personal qualities and of his work as a teacher and investigator.

“Professor Craig came to us first as a graduate student and received the degree of Master of Science in Agriculture in 1898. In the year 1900 he was called back to this University to take charge of the extension teaching in agriculture; and in 1903 he was made Professor of Horticulture, which position he held till his death on August 10th, 1912.

“Professor Craig was a man of great earnestness and unusual personal charm. He met the world with a cheerful face even when enduring intense physical pain. The fortitude and perseverance with which he carried on his work almost to the end of his life in spite of great suffering were an inspiration to all who witnessed it.

“In his going from among us we feel that the University Faculty has lost an efficient and loyal member; and that each of us has lost a friend.

“We extend to his family, whose grief we share, our heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement.”

*W. D. Bancroft, D. S. Kimball, J. H. Comstock, Chairman*

*Source: Records, p. 609, October 15, 1913*

# Charles Lee Crandall

— August 25, 1917

The Professor of Engineering, Professor Jacoby, presented the following resolutions, which were adopted by rising vote:

The sudden death of Professor Emeritus Charles Lee Crandall on August 25, 1917, came as a shock to all of his colleagues as well as to his friends among alumni and townspeople. His colleagues had cherished the hope that he would remain with them for a decade or more. Since his retirement from active university service in June, 1915, he was continuously engaged in a variety of pursuits. He revised several of his books, continued active work on the Committee on Iron and Steel Structures of the American Railway Engineering Association and served as a member of the Board of Public Works of the City of Ithaca, since January, 1915.

The Faculty expresses its deep sense of personal loss and extends its warmest sympathy to the bereaved family.

Resolutions relating to his character and service were adopted by the University Faculty at the time of his retirement.. It may be appropriate, however, to add a hearty endorsement of the following editorial note published in Engineering News-Record, September 27, under the title “ Professor Crandall—A Successful Teacher “:

“ The lot of the professor of engineering is not always a happy one. Compensation is low, recognition is often belated. The main reward must come from a sense of duty well performed and the affection of a long line of students. Success of the more material sort came to Professor Crandall of Cornell University,—but the crowning professional success, the affectionate regard of forty engineering classes, was his in exceptional measure. Kindliness and sympathy were the lodestones by which he attracted the young men, and forever kept them as friends; but to these traits he added a sureness of technical knowledge that made him in after years a professional mentor as well. His work and the place he holds in the memory of his boys should be an inspiration to every teacher. He showed how great a success can be made in the teaching profession.”

*Committee: S. G. George, E. E. Haskell, Henry S. Jacoby, Chairman*

*Source: Records, p. 918, October 10, 1917*

*(continued)*

## *RETIREMENT STATEMENT*

The Professor of Applied Mechanics, Professor Church, on behalf of the committee (Professors Church, chairman, Burr, A. W. Smith) appointed by the President to prepare resolutions on the retirement of Professor C. L. Crandall from active service, presented the following resolutions, which were adopted by rising vote:

“At the close of the present academic year, after more than forty- one years of continuous service on the teaching staff of Cornell University, our colleague, Professor Charles Lee Crandall, retires from his active duties. The University Faculty desires to record its regret at this severance of his old relations with us, and its appreciation of his work and his influence.

A member of the first four-year class graduating from Cornell, he was appointed in 1874 an Instructor in Civil Engineering, in 1875 an Assistant Professor; and thus he was from the outset one of the earnest workers of those pioneer days of our University. During that early period his work as a teacher had to cover several of the technical subjects of the civil engineering curriculum; but, as years went by and the increasing resources of the University made possible a larger number of teachers, Professor Crandall was enabled to concentrate his energies on the subjects of his choice. He became Associate Professor of Civil Engineering in 1891, and in 1895 was appointed Professor of Railway Engineering and Geodesy.

During the college year 1892-93, Professor Fuertes, Director of the College of Civil Engineering, being absent in Europe, Professor Crandall was the Acting Director of the college ; and he again served in that capacity after the death of Professor Fuertes, from 1903 till the appointment of the present Dean, Professor Haskell, in 1906. In these two critical periods of the history of the College, Professor Crandall’s services in directing its affairs were invaluable.

But these heavy duties by no means sum up Professor Crandall’s activities, Besides being the author of important text-books in the fields of his work as a teacher, he has done valuable experimental and literary work for two of our national engineering societies of which he is an honored member, and he has never wholly abandoned the practice of engineering, by which he has not only kept in touch with the practical field of his profession, but has opened the door to many services, both civic and technical, to the people of the city of Ithaca. A special debt of gratitude is due him from the alumni of the College of Civil Engineering for his constant and effective service in securing them professional positions through a correspondence bureau which during many years he has conducted for this purpose. But what is probably Professor Crandall’s greatest usefulness is the result of his high, unselfish character. His whole life has been given to the devoted service of his associates and of his students.



Graduates of the College of Civil Engineering have no memories of Cornell that do not include a feeling of affection and thankfulness to Professor Crandall. Of kindly disposition and practical sound sense, sympathetic in his intercourse with students, quiet and modest in manner, but with strong convictions as to truth and justice in any matter brought before him, and always ready to sacrifice personal interests in following the dictates of duty, Professor Crandall has won the warm esteem of all who have come within the circle of his influence during these two score years of service at Cornell. The University Faculty extends to him the assurance of its highest gratitude, with the earnest hope that the future holds in store for him many years of activity and happiness.”

*Source: Records, p. 680, June 9, 1915*

# Thomas Frederick Crane

Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures

1844 — Dec. 9, 1927

Dean Crane is gone. No other held among us so unique a place. Not only at eighty-three was he the last survivor of the notable group of teachers who nearly sixty years ago formed the original Faculty of Cornell, but as had none of his colleagues he had personally known the Founder and his advisers and shared their plans. A student of law in the office of Ezra Cornell's closest friend and legal adviser, he had been at hand for help in the new institution's emergencies. Thus there fell to him large part in its first entrance examinations; and when its professor of German was delayed in Europe he found himself drafted into his place. But his tastes and ambitions were always those of the scholar, and except for the period spent abroad in the completion of his studies he never turned from the career thus thrust upon him.

The chair of which he dreamed, devoted wholly to Spanish, was indeed never his, but as Professor of Spanish and Italian, as head of the department of the Romance Languages, as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (1896-1902), as Dean of the University Faculty (1902-1909) he passed through all ranks of academic preferment, and twice (1899-1900 and 1912-13) he for a year as President of the University. But his activity was never exhausted by class room or administrative office. Gifted with a pen of singular grace and charm, he was a frequent and welcomed writer for both the learned and the general magazines, and volume after volume he gave to the press. From the first his interest was less in language than in literature and in the living sources from which literature flows. Even before, in 1885, he published his first book, his *Italian Popular Tales* had given to the world the study which pointed out the importance for the beginnings of modern literature of the *exempla*, or illustrative stories used by the medieval preachers; and when in 1890 he followed this with his edition of those of the great crusading orator Jacques de Vitry, his reputation as a folklorist was established on both sides of the sea. Already his work had lost all touch of the dilettante. His narrow income was strained for the building up of his remarkable private library, and his slip catalogue of folk-tales became a resource for scholars the world around. In later volumes he exploited the mine thus opened; but these by no means checked the breadth of his reading or set a limit for his exuberant pen. This still found tireless vent in essay and review, edition and textbook, even now and then in a venture into fiction and it is matter for lasting gratitude that his latest volume (1925) could include, from his own hand, a bibliography of his rich output.

But this career of bookworm and writer meant never for him neglect of social gifts. Of society he was always a lover as well as a student, and from his early manhood he shone both in conversation and as an after-dinner speaker. Yet few who knew him, sensitive and of delicate health, in his earlier years as a teacher, could have guessed how as Dean he was to become the very centre of student life, accessible and beloved, interested in every student activity and a speaker at all student gatherings. The university, too, now found him its happiest mouthpiece for all public occasions, its most attractive deputy for errands abroad. His addresses on memorial occasions will remain to it an especial treasure. Nor is its debt to him small for material gifts. Again and again he enriched the university library with precious collections and his last act among us was to bestow on it the note-books and memoranda of his lifetime's study

Nor were his interests ever narrowly academic. Though not a native of Ithaca, much of his childhood was spent here, here he fitted himself for college, and his love for the town and its people was deep and sincere. To church and school, to charities and hospital, he gave almost too generously of his means and of himself; and to the wider claims of country and mankind his ear was never deaf. Beneath all this wealth of service, this exuberance of self-expression, there lay, too, a character deep and earnest. The lightness of his touch was never permitted to belie his reverent convictions or his high sense of what became the gentleman. We shall miss the scholar and the courtly wit; but our deepest sorrow is to lose the man.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1530 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University January, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Eight*

Retired: June 1909 (Fac. Rec. p. 464)

# James Edwin Creighton

Sage Professor of Logic and Metaphysics

*1861 — Oct. 8, 1924*

James Edwin Creighton was a member of the teaching staff of Cornell University for thirty-five years, and at the time of his death was the senior active member of the University Faculty. During his long career as teacher, writer, and editor he stamped his personality indelibly on all of his work.

As Dean of the Graduate School he was chiefly responsible for the creation and formulation of its standards and procedure; as Editor of *The Philosophical Review* during a period of over thirty years he read, adjudged, and published a large part of the philosophical articles written in America and through this labor he exerted an influence far beyond the country's boundaries; as a teacher he interpreted with unrivalled clarity and expository skill the great systems of speculative thought and created among his students, as few men have done, a body of disciples, many of whom have become writers and teachers,—his living epistles; as a member of our faculties and in the general life of the University he was an extraordinarily impressive and influential figure.

Preeminently he was a man of faith. Tenacious of principles, persistent and persuasive in controversy, he was a protagonist in every important issue that concerned the ends and ideals of university education and government. He was a stalwart and outspoken advocate of the professorial point of view, an ardent believer in the efficacy of open discussion, a lover of the fire of intellectual battle, and impatient of easy and unconsidered acquiescence. His was a rugged and virile mind. He had strong convictions and there was a contagion in his earnestness and sincerity. In his death the University is impoverished by the loss of one of its most distinguished scholars.

*Source: (Fac. Rec. p. 1379) Resolutions Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University October, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Four.*

# Cyrus Richard Crosby

Professor of Entomology

*January 9, 1879 — January 11, 1937*

In the sudden death of Cyrus Richard Crosby on January 11, 1937, Cornell University lost an efficient and faithful member, his associates in the Department of Entomology a helpful and inspiring colleague, his neighbors a genial and entertaining friend. Professor Crosby was born January 9, 1879 at Penn Yan, New York. After graduating from Cornell University in 1905 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts he served as assistant entomologist at the University of Missouri. Returning to Cornell in 1906 he held successively the positions of entomological investigator in the Experiment Station, assistant professor, and finally since 1913, that of extension professor. He was a member of the Association of Economic Entomologists, of the Entomological Society of France, a Fellow of the Entomological Society of America and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Professor Crosby has written extensively on subjects related to his field. He completed a work on fruit insects which had been begun by Professor Mark Vernon Slingerland, and with Dr. Mortimer Demarest Leonard he collaborated on a widely used text on vegetable insects. He also wrote, either alone or in collaboration with others a number of experiment station circulars and bulletins. Although his time was chiefly given over to his activities as extension entomologist, he nevertheless found time – evenings, holidays, and vacations – to devote to his hobby of studying spiders, a group in which his interest was first aroused by Professor John Henry Comstock, and in which he became a leading authority. On his collecting trips the usual discomforts in the field did not deter him from often spending hours in the chill winds on a mountain top or in a mosquito-infested swamp, sifting for spiders. His work is marked by meticulous care.

Though physically rather deliberate, he exhibited an astounding intellectual alertness, a tireless industry, and an unbounded enthusiasm which was an inspiration to the young men with whom he was associated. The catholicity of his tastes was shown by his interest in philosophy, religion, anthropology, geology, and other subjects outside the field of his profession.

He was known as a man of positive character with firm convictions and strong likes and dislikes. Not so well known is the fact that his sympathies were easily aroused, and then his purse, time, and thought were freely given.

Professor Crosby will be long remembered by the members of the University community. The Faculty extends to his family its sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

*Source: Fac. Records p. 1964 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, March, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Seven*

# Herbert Joseph Davenport

Professor of Economics

— June 16, 1931

## *RETIREMENT STATEMENT*

Professor Herbert J. Davenport came to Cornell in 1916 at the ripe age of fifty-five years. Already he had published two stout volumes, “Value and Distribution” (1908) and “Economics of Enterprise” (1913), the earlier giving a detailed, penetrating, and systematic criticism of his predecessors’ contributions, the later embodying his own constructive theory. That they are among the outstanding contributions to American scholarship in a most difficult field, the field of systematic coherent abstract thought, and that they are marked by a rare combination of theoretic insight with hard common sense, no competent judge will deny.

Before Davenport came to this University he had had an indirect but significant relation to it. When the University of Chicago opened its doors, its department of economics was staffed with four men from Cornell, and ten years later when Davenport began his teaching of economics with an appointment at the university which held him there for six years, he found on its faculty two of the Cornell appointees, Laughlin and Veblen. To the former he dedicated his first and perhaps his most important book, saying that, much as Laughlin might differ from its conclusions, the book had been made possible “only through the freedom of thought and of teaching” which he had fostered. Davenport’s debt to Veblen, widely as they also differed, was even more intimate and personal.

During the thirteen years which were passed at Cornell before he reached the age of retirement, Davenport continued to write numerous articles on economic theory, incisive in style and constructive in content, but none the less his main service was in the classroom, the work which he best loved and in which his mastery and success grew with the years. Formal lecturing he disdained; with his students he trod the more congenial Socratic path of a cooperative search for truth, for the principles which underlie, for example, the simplest act of purchase and sale. Along this path he guided them until they seemed with him to discover what before was unknown, and in the process to gain confidence and zest in the unwonted exercise of their own powers of analysis and thought. His classroom was the arena for a conflict of ideas, and the teacher’s word of approval went not to the one who agreed with him but to the one who had wrestled well or even successfully against the elder thinker.

His power as a teacher was increased by his rugged, forceful personality, his kindly personal interest in all his students, his deep enthusiasm for his own theories, his conviction of their abiding importance and of society’s need of them for its salvation.

*Source: Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, October, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Nine*



## **E. Gorton Davis**

Professor of Landscape Architecture

*May 7, 1880 — May 23, 1930*

Professor E. Gorton Davis was born May 7, 1880 at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he spent his early years. He was graduated from Denison University in 1905 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Shortly after graduation he joined Townsend and Fleming, Landscape Architects, and remained with this firm until 1911 when he became a member of the Faculty of the Landscape Department, then in the College of Agriculture. He soon became head of this department and held this position until his sudden death at Ithaca, on May 23, 1930.

During his years at Cornell Professor Davis became outstanding in the educational field of his profession and greatly influenced the course which the teaching of Landscape Architecture throughout the country has followed. He also greatly influenced the development of the School of Landscape Architecture at Cornell and was a vital factor in its progress. As a teacher he inspired the confidence and held the interest of his students. His close contact with them as undergraduates was followed by an equally great interest in them as alumni.

Undoubtedly, his greatest interest was in the History of Landscape Architecture, of which he made a most scholarly study. His compilations and research in this field, particularly as related to the early American work, are a great achievement. They constitute, even in the unfinished state in which he left them, a valuable contribution to our knowledge. It is to be hoped that this work, which he formulated so effectively, may be carried forward.

In addition to his teaching he carried on a private practice; his work in this field bears ample witness to his practical ability as a Landscape Architect.

But the memory of Professor Davis that lives undimmed in the minds of his friends is a warm and human thing that no record of work done can render. His fiery enthusiasm, his gusto in the act of living, even his quick and generous anger, were the marks of such an ardent spirit as we see but seldom. It was this prodigal ardor of his that so caught and held his students that they would crowd his hospitable home, and would return thither year by year when they were undergraduates no longer. One likes to think that this ardor of spirit has worked upon them, and is through them preserved to the future.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1646 Resolution of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University December, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty*

# Louis Monroe Dennis

Professor of Inorganic Chemistry

— *Dec. 9, 1936*

The death of Louis Monroe Dennis, on December 9th, 1936, marked the passing of another of that small group whose long services to Cornell, beginning in the earlier years of the institution, have been constructive forces in the development of the University.

Coming to the Department of Chemistry in the Fall of 1887 as Instructor, he was advanced to an Assistant Professorship in 1891, and to an Associate Professorship in 1893. In 1900, he became Professor of Inorganic Chemistry, and he served as Head of the Department of Chemistry from 1903 until his retirement in 1931: forty-five strenuous years of active service.

These years saw the work in Chemistry transferred to Morse Hall from Franklin Hall which had previously been shared with the Department of Physics; the extension and additions to Morse Hall; and the disastrous fire which well nigh destroyed that building in the Spring of 1916.

The laying of the cornerstone of Baker Laboratory was a memorable day for Professor Dennis. It marked the beginning of an adequate home for the Department of Chemistry, and to the planning and building and equipment of this Laboratory, he devoted years of intensive study and expert knowledge. The Baker Laboratory of Chemistry is a monument and a memorial to the wisdom, the vision, the resourcefulness, the energy, and the inspiration of Louis Monroe Dennis.

During these years and under his able guidance, the department showed steady progress, not only in material things, but also in academic work and in productive scholarship and research. The establishment of the "George Fisher Baker Non-Resident Lectureship in Chemistry" is the direct outgrowth of the plan, conceived and executed by Professor Dennis, of bringing to America each semester one of Europe's leading scientists.

The wide studies of his undergraduate days in literature, languages, and music were developed and enriched by a highly sensitive and refined taste in artistic values.

Blessed with rugged strength and a love of sport, he was no mean antagonist in competition with those who were many years his juniors. This joy of a life that was clean, and fair and generous, led to his long and devoted service

to athletics at Cornell, to the inception of the annual musical festivals at the University, and to the support of other causes for the welfare of his fellows to which he gave himself persistently and unselfishly.

To those whose chief contacts with Professor Dennis were along professional lines he will be remembered as the accurate, painstaking investigator, exacting and rigorous in his demands upon himself, and equally insistent that all who were under his direction should exhibit the same high standards and ideals. It is a source of gratification to his colleagues that, during the period of his retirement, he was able, with unimpaired vigor and industry, to continue the high quality of the scientific research in his chosen field which had brought him great distinction both at home and abroad.

To those who were privileged to know him in more intimate ways, Professor Dennis was the gracious host, the welcome friend, the fair and generous sportsman, the tasteful connoisseur and gifted performer in various forms of art, the patron and supporter of many a fine endeavor, the ardent advocate of freedom in all its phases, loyal to the institution which he had served so long, devoted to the welfare of the community in which he moved. The world is finer and fairer because he lived.

*Source: Faculty Records p. 1971 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, April, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Seven*

Retired: 1932 Faculty Records, p. 1737, 1754

## Herman Diederichs

John E. Sweet Professorship in Engineering; Dean of the College of Engineering

*August 12, 1874 — August 31, 1937*

The death of Herman Diederichs on August 31, 1937 removes another of those outstanding figures that have brought fame to our College of Engineering and have given luster to the University as a whole.

Born at Muenchen-Gladbach in the Rhine Province, on August 12, 1874, the German lad received his elementary education in his native city. In 1888 his parents brought the family to America, settling in Dolgeville, New York. In spite of modest circumstances, means were found to send young Diederichs to the local high school, where he won a Cornell state scholarship, walking to Herkimer more than twenty miles distant, to take the competitive examinations. With this scholarship and a promise of financial assistance from friends, he entered Cornell University in 1893. Here, with a large measure of self-support and with only a recent acquisition of English he not only completed his course in engineering in the prescribed four years with a record that won him election to the honorary society of Sigma Xi, but also found time to engage in student activities, becoming prominent a shot-putter. After receiving the degree of Mechanical Engineer in 1897, he was at the end of the following year appointed Instructor in Experimental Engineering under the late Professor Rolla C. Carpenter. In 1902 he was promoted to an Assistant Professorship, and to a Professorship in 1907, and he succeeded Professor Carpenter as Head of the Department of Experimental Engineering in 1920. In 1928 he was appointed as the first incumbent of the John E. Sweet Professorship in Engineering which had been established in honor of the distinguished engineer who at one time was a professor at Cornell. Professor Diederichs had in 1911 become Director of the Sibley School of Mechanical Engineering, and in 1936 he was appointed to the Deanship of the College of Engineering—a well-deserved honor, which he was fated to enjoy for only a little over a single year.

The entire period of Herman Diederichs' manhood was, therefore, devoted to the service of his Alma Mater. His activities concerned not only his chosen field, but also many of the broader aspects of university life. As a member of the faculty he was often called upon to serve on important committees, and the confidence in which he was held by his colleagues is attested by his election in 1929 to serve as one of the Faculty Representatives on the Board of Trustees. For many years no important question in the College of Engineering, whether of academic or administrative character, has been decided without his advice and judgment.

Interested in athletics, Professor Diederichs was over a long period a member of the Athletic Council for several years he served as President of that body. Here, again, his sterling character impressed itself, and the appreciation of this service is shown by the following dedication of *The Cornellian* of 1935.

“To Herman Diederichs, who forty-two years has served his Alma Mater as student, teacher, and administrator, and who through his intense interest and untiring efforts, has succeeded in inaugurating a new era in Cornell Athletics. For his active participation in Campus affairs he will long be remembered, and as a stern teacher and a sympathetic honest friend, the Class of 1935 will revere him—”Cornell’s Man of the Year.” Surely student praise can attain no higher level.

He was an authority in the field of experimental engineering, and his contributions to the literature of this field were many and important. In 1930 the Melville Medal was awarded jointly to Dean Diederichs and William P. Pomeroy by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers “in recognition of a thesis of exceptional merit.

Professor Diederichs was a member of Quill and Dagger; Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity; Sigma Xi; Tau Beta Pi; Phi Kappa Phi; American Society of Mechanical Engineers; Society of Automotive Engineers; American Society of Metals; Verein Deutscher Ingenieure and Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education. Last year he was chairman of the Board of Honors and Awards of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and also of its Nominating Committee for 1936. He was vice-president of the second district of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and Chairman of the Board of Athletic Policy of Cornell University.

His teaching naturally reflected his scholarly habits and thoroughness. Perhaps his best known undergraduate course included his lectures on Materials of Engineering which he gave to many generations of electrical and mechanical engineers. No student ever went to him for advice or help on any matter without receiving assistance, and as freshmen grew into seniors, they acquired respect, admiration, and real affection for his rugged personality. Of permanent value also has been his assistance in developing the course in experimental engineering. The engineering experimental laboratory had been conceived by the late Dr. Robert H. Thurston at Stevens Institute and brought by him to Cornell in 1885, and the background of the present course was further developed under the late Professor Carpenter. Professor Diederichs, therefore, carried with him to his death the inspiration of these two great pioneers, but it was his own labor to modify and adapt the course to an ever-changing industrial world, and this he did in a masterly manner. He has also kept alive at Cornell the spirit of research in mechanical engineering,

and in spite of many handicaps, the long list of scientific publications issued under his guidance continued to grow. His influence and knowledge in this important part of the work of the college will not be forgotten.

One of Dean Diederichs' outstanding virtues was his sturdy honesty, not only in matters appertaining to his professional work and his teaching, but in all his personal contacts with people. Modest to an extreme degree, he was nevertheless essentially a sociable person with a sympathetic and tender heart.

Herman Diederichs was helpful to all around him. Cornell University and this entire community are the better because he lived and worked among us.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 2016 Resolution of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-Eight*

# James Clifton Edgar

*June 14, 1859 — April 7, 1939*

Dr. James Clifton Edgar died at his home in Greenwich, Connecticut, on April 7, 1939. He was born in New York City on June 14, 1859, the son of the late James Alexander Edgar and the late Eliza Maria Coe Edgar. He attended St. Paul's School at Concord, New Hampshire, and Lafayette College, from which he received a Ph.B. degree in 1882 and an M.A. degree in 1884. His medical degree was received from New York University in 1885. In 1888, after a two-year internship on the second medical division at Bellevue Hospital, he pursued post-graduate studies at the Royal Frauenklinik in Munich. Upon his return he began private practice and a long teaching career. He first served as lecturer in Obstetrics and later as adjunct professor of Obstetrics at New York University Medical College. He became professor of Obstetrics at Cornell University Medical College in 1900 and held that position until his retirement in 1922, when he became emeritus professor.

Although Dr. Edgar's teaching methods were delightfully informal, his ability to place great emphasis on important facts impressed his pupils. He was respected and revered by the students. Among his distinguished students in the field of obstetrics was the late Harold Hailey, who succeeded him at Cornell University as associate professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. During the early part of the twentieth century obstetrics underwent changes which caused it to be considered more of a surgical than medical speciality. Dr. Edgar was intensely interested in these changes. He took an active interest in and participated in all the advances of scientific obstetrics.

Dr. Edgar's most important literary contribution to medicine was his textbook *The Practice of Obstetrics*, which had five editions under his editorship. It was a textbook of great practical value. He also edited Winckel's textbook and wrote several monographs on obstetrical topics.

At various times he served on the visiting staffs of the following hospitals: Lying-in, New York City Maternity, Manhattan Maternity and Dispensary, and Bellevue Hospital. He was a member of all the regular medical societies, the New York Academy of Medicine, the American College of Surgeons, the American Gynecological Society and the New York Obstetrical Society, serving as president in 1908.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Ellen Muriel Beatrice Soutter Edgar, and two sons, Clifton and Charles Soutter Edgar.

# Herbert Charles Elmer

Professor of Latin

*1860 — Sept. 24, 1935*

Announcement was made of the death, on September 24, 1935 of Herbert Charles Elmer, Professor Emeritus since 1928.

*Source: Records p. 1894, October 9, 1935*

## **RETIREMENT STATEMENT**

Professor Herbert Charles Elmer retired from active teaching at the close of the academic year 1927-28, and has been appointed by the Trustees of the University Professor Emeritus.

Professor Elmer was born in Rushford, New York, in the year 1860, held a state scholarship in Cornell University during the years 1879-83, and, after a career of distinction as an undergraduate, received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1883. He immediately proceeded to The Johns Hopkins University for further study of the Classics during the two periods of 1883- 85 and 1886-88, with an interval of study abroad, in Germany and Italy, in the academic year of 1885-86. On receiving the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Johns Hopkins in 1888, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Latin in Cornell University. In 1909 he was appointed Professor of Latin. Apart from two other periods of study abroad, in 1895-96 and in 1909-10, he has for forty years been continuously active at Cornell University as a teacher and scholar of the best gifts, the most distinguished training, and the highest attainment.

Professor Elmer early made himself known throughout the scholarly world as an authority on Latin syntax, and has an enviable reputation besides as an editor of Terence and Plautus. His learning has made him vital in helping others to learn. As an effective, exact, patient, sympathetic teacher, he has endeared himself to generations of classical students in our College of Arts and Sciences. He has been a good and wise friend to his colleagues and to his University. Nor will his helpful influence cease. Many of his pupils are now teaching throughout the country. His latest achievement, a Latin Grammar, the fruit of great knowledge and long experience, has been perfected and issued in his first year of release from academic duties. It is a model book; its expert method, lucid expression, and simplicity of arrangement, with no lowering, but rather an elevation, of standards, will do much to promote the study of Latin and humanity in America.

The Faculty and Trustees herewith express for Professor Elmer their high esteem, their affectionate regard; their regret at his retirement in the fullness of his power from active teaching; their gratification that he will continue



amongst us, a sympathetic member of our academic community; their confident hope that in his well-earned leisure he will keep adding to those tasteful and scholarly productions which have shed lustre upon himself and upon Cornell University.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1564 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, January, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Nine*

# George Charles Embody

*November 23, 1876 — February 17, 1939*

Professor Embody died of heart disease on February 17, 1939, at Daytona Beach, Florida, where he had gone on sabbatic leave.

George Charles Embody was born in Auburn, New York, on November 23, 1876. He was a graduate of Auburn High School and of Colgate University, where he received the bachelor's degree in 1900 and the master's degree in 1901. Although his interest as an undergraduate lay in the field of physical sciences and he held an assistantship in physics at Colgate, a love of the outdoors soon turned him toward biology and natural history. One of his first publications was *Birds of Madison County*. He collected several hundred specimens of birds and mammals which he gave to the Cornell museum in 1938. When he could do so he obtained further training in the biological sciences, in 1906-07 at Johns Hopkins and from 1908 to 1910 at Cornell. Here he held an instructorship in Vertebrate Zoology in 1909-10, and in 1910 took the doctor's degree. Colgate University awarded him the honorary degree of doctor of science in 1924.

Although Dr. Embody is best known for his research, he was not less eminent in teaching, being adept in the art of planting the germ of an idea in a student's mind, nourishing it through the formative stages, and then, by gradual withdrawal, creating an independent scientist in the true Comstock tradition. His teaching began in 1901 at the Delaware Literary Institute; the next year he taught science at Bradford High School in Pennsylvania; then for three years he was professor of Natural Science at Bethel College in Kentucky. After his year at Johns Hopkins he taught at Randolph-Macon College and, after his two years at Cornell, at Butler University as professor of Biology, whence he returned to Cornell in 1911 to remain here as instructor, assistant professor, and after 1920 as professor of Aquiculture. In 1921 he obtained leave of absence to teach at new newly organized College of Fisheries at the University of Washington.

Research led him into many fields, as is often the case with men pioneering in an unexploited area of knowledge. His investigations included birds, the Crustacea, the life history of fishes, the genetics of fishes, fish diseases and nutrition, and a host of field and laboratory studies bearing on the problems of game-fish production. One of his great achievements was the formulation of a standard stocking policy for streams, published in 1927 and widely adopted in the United States and Canada. Fish stocking had been hit-or-miss, often based on political expediency rather than biological principles. The policy that Dr. Embody established insists that an actual survey of stream

conditions must be made before a satisfactory planting program can be adopted. Such an actual survey had been developed, first under Professor Embody's guidance by Dr. W. A. Clemens, who published in 1917 working plans for increasing fish production in the streams of Oneida County, then by Dr. Embody himself in a study of the waters of Tompkins County. The foundations were then laid for a biological survey of the watersheds of New York which has been conducted under the leadership of Dr. Emmeline Moore and is now near completion. Dr. Embody's hatchery on Cascadilla Creek was one of the first experimental stations of its kind on this continent and there he developed many of the modern practices in fish culture. He published some fifty technical papers and reports. He had completed a work on the toxicology of fishes which his son, Daniel R. Embody, is preparing for publication, and he left in manuscript a manual of goldfish culture and a text on general fish culture with particular reference to trout.

He served as field biologist of the New York State Conservation Department for many years as adviser to the hatchery service of that department for the last ten years, and as consultant to the New Jersey Fish and Game Department and to the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. While on leave in 1932 he was in charge of the California trout investigations under the supervision of the Bureau of Fisheries. Many persons, from the owner of a garden pool or a farm fishpond to the sportsmen of the State, sought his advice.

He was a member of the American Fisheries Society and of its special Committee which drew up a policy of fish culture for North America; in 1918 he received the society's award for original work and in 1924 he was president of the society. He belonged to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Genetics Society, the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the Ecological Society of America, and the American Wild Life Institute. He was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon, Gamma Alpha, Phi Beta Kappa, and Sigma Xi.

As an undergraduate Dr. Embody had excelled in track and field athletics, but such sport soon gave way to his love of sports afield. He was a crack shot and a skillful angler. From early boyhood—when it was a novelty to amateurs—he had been keenly interested in photography, and he learned to use motion pictures to illustrate some of the techniques of fish culture.

His students, many of them following paths which he pointed out to them, will remember his sympathetic and self-sacrificing help. His colleagues will recall his ease and graciousness in the midst of work.

## Evan W. Evans

1827\* — May 22, 1874\*\*

“Whereas the late Evan W. Evans, formerly professor of Mathematics in this University, and the first elected member of the Faculty has recently died, and we deeply respect him and regret his loss not only on account of his very great mathematical abilities and attainments, his rare proficiency as a philologist and his varied general culture, but on account of his skill as a teacher, his calm and considerate judgement, his careful integrity and conscientious regard to his duty as a man, and we wish to record our sense of his great merits and of the loss which the University and Society sustained when he was prevented from further services to either, “Resolved, that the foregoing be inserted in the minutes of this meeting as an expression of the feelings of this Faculty, and that a copy of the same be furnished to the family of an departed friend.”

\* According to plaque in Sage Chapel.

\*\* Died at Ithaca.

*Source: Fac. Rec. B117*

# Frank Latta Fairbanks

*December 16, 1884 — March 5, 1939*

Frank Latta Fairbanks was born at Ithaca, New York, December 16, 1884, and died on March 5, 1939, of injuries received in an automobile accident while engaged in work for the University.

Professor Fairbanks was of a sturdy family founded in this country by Jonathan Fairbanks, who came from Somerby in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England, in 1633 and in 1636 erected a dwelling at Dedham, Massachusetts, which is standing, habitable, and owned by one of the family today. Harvey Fairbanks, great-grandfather of Professor Fairbanks, moved from Cornish, Vermont, to Homer, New York, in 1816 and cleared a farm on the Scott Road that is now occupied by a grandson. In the barn on this farm the first installation of the Fairbanks-Goodman ventilating system for dairy stables was put into practical operation in 1925.

The son of a father expert in mechanical matters from whom he gained valuable early experience, Professor Fairbanks graduated from Sibley College of Mechanical Engineering in 1910, served the H. H. Franklin Company of Syracuse as test engineer, and had a varied engineering experience in Pendleton, Oregon, from 1911 until 1915, when he was recalled to Ithaca to care for his parents. He served as librarian of Sibley College from 1915 until 1917, when he became assistant in Farm Mechanics in the New York State College of Agriculture. After 1918 he was successively instructor and assistant professor of Agricultural Engineering. The title of professor came to him in 1934.

Early teaching work was in the tractor schools given during the World War to promote food production, after which, in addition to teaching, he carried on investigations in the artificial illumination of poultry houses, farm power machinery, applications of electricity to agriculture, and air-conditioning of animal shelters. In the latter field the development of the Fairbanks-Goodman system of ventilation of dairy stables, addresses before the American societies of Agricultural Engineers and Heating and Ventilating Engineers, bulletins and other publications have given deserved national standing to work done with scientific thoroughness and with a sympathetic and informed appreciation of agricultural requirements. He was a member of Sigma Xi, of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, and of Masonic fraternities, being a 32nd-degree Mason.

His colleagues have lost a true friend and an able associate. The farmers of the State have lost a sound and capable adviser.

# President Livingston Farrand

*June 14, 1867 — November 8, 1939*

Livingston Farrand was born in Newark, New Jersey, on June 14, 1867. He was graduated from Princeton University in 1888 and studied medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, receiving the degree of M.D. in 1891. Princeton made him a master of arts in the same year. He then went abroad for two years of study at Cambridge and Berlin. He was appointed instructor in Psychology at Columbia University in 1893 and was afterward promoted to an adjunct professorship. His interest in American anthropology, his participation in anthropological expeditions, and the writings which resulted, brought him a professorship of Anthropology at Columbia in 1903. It was about this time that he became deeply concerned with problems of public health. He was appointed executive secretary of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, and from 1912 to 1914 he was treasurer of the American Public Health Association.

That period of Dr. Farrand's life which was devoted to important administrative work began in 1914 with his assumption of the presidency of the University of Colorado. In 1917 he was put in charge of the tuberculosis work in France of the International Health Board. In 1919 he was appointed chairman of the central committee of the American Red Cross. And in October, 1921, he became the fourth president of Cornell University. Retiring in 1937, he continued to serve actively on various organizations for public health and public service until his death in New York on November 8, 1939.

Dr. Farrand married, on February 1, 1901, Margaret K. Carleton of New York. They had five children.

It is needless here to summarize the achievements of Dr. Farrand's busy years in the presidency of Cornell. It was a period of great material progress. The University's endowment was nearly doubled, the value of its buildings, grounds, and equipment nearly trebled.

The mark of Dr. Farrand's spirit is to be felt in the mind and temper of the University, as it is to be seen in the physical evidences of the campus. No doubt every true leader communicates something of himself to his companions. The Cornell of Andrew D. White partook of his indomitable idealism; the Cornell of Jacob Gould Schurman shared his superb, almost restless energy; the Cornell of Livingston Farrand became somehow more urbane, more kindly, more human. Some of us remember well the three: White, dressed with old-fashioned formality, musing on his journey from his home to his library; Schurman, vigorous, tense, striding quickly from duty to duty; Farrand, pausing with a word, a salute, and always with a smile, for almost every one who crossed his path.

He had a genius for friendship. The secret, perhaps, of such a genius is a readiness to give friendship without waiting to be assured of its return. Or, simply, the secret is an innate liking for people and a respect for them. So much was certainly true of Dr. Farrand. Those who visited him in his office with a troublesome request, even one that warred with presidential policy, were disarmed by his eagerness to understand and to aid. No one had his grace in making a refusal, as few had his delight in granting an appeal.

This friendliness of spirit was especially manifest in his speeches. Standing on the platform, smiling in a deprecatory way to the eulogies of his introducer, he would thrust his thumbs in his vest, and almost shyly address his audience, with the informal directness of private conversation. His voice strengthened and grew more resonant as he gave to each hearer what seemed a personal message addressed to him alone. And if the words of the message were sometimes forgotten, the essential remained; that the human spirit of Livingston Farrand conveyed its good will to his hearer, and to the humanity that he loved, for which he labored.

It was only natural that his good will should have been returned to him. Innumerable Cornellians whom he could hardly have known felt for him a personal affection. Unique in the University's history was the tribute paid to him at his retirement in 1937, when thousands of Cornellians gathered in New York to honor him, only to feel, at his leave-taking, an emotion that expressed itself unashamedly in tears.

The affection of those whom he served was surely welcome to him. But his true reward was the success of his work. The honors he received meant little to him, and the ease that may follow achievement nothing at all. Always under the menace of illness, he spent his strength freely for causes that seemed worthy of his strength.

The chief of these causes was the welfare of Cornell. He accepted and gladly bore his responsibility for sixteen years. The Cornell that we know, that living thing, is largely of his making. And not its walls and towers only; its spirit bears, and will bear for long, the impress of his kindly spirit.

# Jeremiah Sweetser Ferguson

*May 31, 1871 — June 30, 1939*

Dr. Jeremiah Sweetster Ferguson, who died on June 30, 1939, was born in Searsport, Maine, on May 31, 1871. He received the degree of bachelor of science in 1889 and that of master of science in 1892 from the University of Maine and the degree of doctor of medicine from New York University in 1892. The University of Maine awarded him the honorary degree of doctor of science in 1922.

After receiving his professional degree he joined the teaching staff of New York University as assistant in Histology and he was instructor in that subject there from 1896 to 1898. In the latter year he joined the teaching staff of the Cornell University Medical College as instructor and was advanced to the rank of assistant professor of Histology, a position which he held until 1913, when he withdrew from teaching in the pre-clinical branches.

During this period he published a rather comprehensive textbook on *Normal Histology and Microscopic Anatomy*, a subject which was inadequately covered in this country at that time. He appears to have been an expert draftsman, for many of the excellent illustrations in this book were drawn by his own hand and many of the microphotographs were of his own making. In addition he was actively engaged in research. During the early part of his career his interest was centered in the minute structure of the thyroid gland. His own work contributed to the studies of the functions and chemical composition of that organ which were being actively pursued by several of the departments of the Medical School at that time. Afterwards his attention was directed to the more basic and perhaps more difficult problems of the minute structure of reticular tissue and the relation of reticular fibers to the elastic and to the white fibers of collagenous tissue.

After he severed his connection with the teaching staff of the pre-clinical branches, his writings turned toward the clinical fields.

Throughout his professional life, extending over a period of forty-seven years, he was also engaged in the practice of medicine and held many important positions in the hospitals of New York City. He was director of Pediatrics at Gouverneur Hospital, where he was a consulting physician at the time of his death. He had also served as assistant attending physician, attending physician and consulting physician at the Willard Parker Hospital for contagious diseases and for a time was a member of the Bellevue Hospital staff.

In 1909 he became the secretary of the Faculty of the Cornell University Medical College and he held that office until his death.



# William Albert Finch

— *March 31, 1912*

Professor William Albert Finch, a member of the Faculty of Cornell University for a period of over twenty years, died on March 31st, 1912. At its first meeting after his death, this Faculty desires to inscribe upon its records an acknowledgement of the great loss which the University has sustained by the death of Professor Finch.

Professor Finch was graduated from this University in 1880 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and was the same year admitted to the bar, having been engaged in the study of the law during his undergraduate days in the office of Francis M. Finch. He immediately took up the practice of law in Ithaca, becoming a member of the firm of Halliday and Finch. Appointed in 1891 to an assistant professorship in law, Professor Finch was the first graduate of Cornell University to return as a member of the Faculty of the College of Law. He was promoted the following year to an associate professorship, and in 1895 to the full professorship which he held until his death. During the years 1896-1901 he acted as secretary of the Faculty of the College of Law, having full charge of the administrative work of the College during that time.

Specializing in the law of real property—a branch of the law requiring the closest application for that comprehensive mastery which was his—his presentation of it in classroom and through his writings was clear and illuminating. Yet he was no narrow specialist; it is an indication of the breadth of his scholarly interests and sympathies that he was accustomed to refresh and recreate his mind by constant studies in science and the classics.

Never robust, and suffering from ill health during the larger part of his life, especially during the last years, he nevertheless entered into his daily task with a spirit serene but enthusiastic, a self-sacrifice brave but unostentatious, that brought friendly cheer and inspiration to his students and his colleagues.

*Frank Irvine, Chairman, C. T. Stagg, Ernest Merritt*

*Source: Records, p. 546, April 19, 1912*

## **Pierre Augustine Fish**

Dean of the N. Y. State College of Veterinary Medicine

*February 17, 1865 — February 19, 1931*

The University Faculty deeply deplores the death of Professor Pierre Augustine Fish, who died February 19, 1931, after a short illness. He was born at Chatham, New York, on February 17, 1865, and entered Cornell University in 1885. After a leave of absence of one year, he took the degree of B.S. in Natural History in 1890. He entered the Graduate School and was granted the degree of D. Sc. in 1894. While doing work for the advanced degree he served as instructor in Physiology and Neurology under Professors B. G. Wilder and S. H. Gage. Two different degrees in veterinary science have been conferred upon him: one from the National Veterinary College of Washington, D. C., in 1896, the other from Cornell University in 1899.

Professor Fish spent thirty-eight of the forty years of a useful and distinguished career in the service of Cornell as a teacher, investigator, and administrator. For two years he was in the service of the national government at Washington. During the year 1895-96, he was assistant to his friend and colleague, Professor V. A. Moore, in the Division of Pathology, Bureau of Animal Industry. During the year 1918-19 he was on leave from the University, having been commissioned a Major, Veterinary Corps, and attached to the Surgeon General's Department. Becoming an assistant professor in 1896, he was advanced to a professorship in 1901. When the Ithaca division of the Medical College was established he organized the courses in physiology and taught them for some years. He served for twenty-nine years as secretary of the faculty of the Veterinary College. He became Dean of the Veterinary College upon the retirement of Professor V. A. Moore in 1929. He was a member of the original faculty of the Veterinary College, having left Washington in 1896 with Professor V. A. Moore to become a member of that body.

One of the outstanding characteristics of Professor Fish was his talent for scientific investigation. Research held for him a profound interest. Such an interest in investigation led to a broad productive scholarship, which is manifest in his numerous articles and various larger publications.

He was not only interested in problems of education, research, and administration, but was also a force in the councils of the profession of veterinary medicine. He served as editor of the Cornell Veterinarian from 1912 to 1915, and of The Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association from 1915 to 1918, was vice-president and president of the New York State Veterinary Medical Society, and a member of numerous important committees in

local, state, and national veterinary associations. He strove always for the highest possible standards of education and professional ethics. His own high personal and professional standards, his keenness of perception, his calm and judicial attitude, caused his counsel to be sought and valued above that of other men. He was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Zeta, the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, and local, state and national veterinary associations.

He gave himself without stint to the many problems confronting him. His sound learning and impartial fairness endeared him to his colleagues and to the many generations of students passing through his classes. Death closed too soon a most successful career of teaching, scholarship, and administration. We shall treasure the memory of his kindly and helpful personality.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1684 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, September, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-One*

# Adam Capen Gill

Professor of Mineralogy and Petrography

*August 22, 1863 — November 8, 1932*

Death came suddenly in the evening of Tuesday, November eighth, 1932, to Adam Capen Gill, Professor of Mineralogy and Petrography. Earlier in that day he had engaged in animated discussion of the issues of the national election with some of his colleagues. It is thought that a minor physical strain suffered in the afternoon induced conditions that caused his death a few hours later.

Professor Gill was born at Chesterville, Maine, August 22, 1863. He received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Amherst College in 1884, and, in 1893, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Munich where he studied with Groth who later spoke of Gill as his most brilliant pupil.

In 1894 Adam Capen Gill was called to Cornell University as assistant professor of mineralogy and petrography, and in 1910 he was promoted to the full professorship. In June of the academic year 1931-32 he was retired with the title of Professor Emeritus, after thirty-eight years of service.

Professor Gill had outstanding ability as a teacher and devoted himself without reservation to his pupils. Both undergraduate and graduate students who had work with Professor Gill often declared that he was the most competent and inspiring of the instructors with whom they had come in contact. Although his teaching was primarily directed to give an understanding of the branches specifically in his charge, he also maintained that a division of knowledge into branches was mere convention, and that a teacher should be free to use the content and interpretations of other fields in serving the general cause of education.

Professor Gill kept abreast of the advances in his own subjects and on many topics his ideas were ahead of investigations in progress. Such ideas he gave freely to his students and colleagues, and in consequence he gained wide recognition outside Cornell University and was known as an authority in his field. His chief legacy to science is the considerable group of pupils who, as investigators and teachers, are doing significant work in mineralogy and petrography.

Those who were intimately acquainted with Professor Gill found him a friendly, genial, sympathetic man with whom they could always advise to advantage. He was actively engaged in the preparation of a book on Crystallography, a cherished project, during the months following his retirement from teaching. The loss caused through his death will be deeply felt by the University community.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1764 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, September, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Three*

Retirement: Faculty Records, p. 1748

# David Clinton Gillespie

Professor of Mathematics

— *October 31, 1935*

In the sudden death of David Clinton Gillespie on October 31, 1935, Cornell University lost an able scholar and teacher, and his colleagues lost a beloved friend. He had served the University for twenty-nine years, first as Instructor and later as Assistant Professor and Professor.

The significance of Professor Gillespie's influence as a scholar and teacher can be fully appreciated only as one understands his concept of the subject to which he devoted his interest and intellectual activity. To him, mathematics was a mode of thinking; and for each individual mathematics must consist of only such truths as were inevitable consequences of his own rational thought; there could be no acceptance of authority. For him the vast accumulation of mathematical knowledge became knowledge only when his mind had followed through the reasoning and found the conclusion to be inescapable. He was essentially a critical scholar in the best sense. He was not only unable to give assent to fallacious reasoning on the part of others, but he had the rarer type of intellectual honesty that made it impossible for him to delude himself.

His colleagues in his department profited by his keen, but always kindly, criticism. If he could not follow their reasoning they found it wise to examine it more critically for themselves, and thus he helped to set a high standard for clear, straight thinking. It was probably inherent in his concept of mathematics that his own published contributions should be few and fundamentally important rather than numerous or lengthy, and that they should have to do with the strengthening of the foundations of the subject rather than the development of new systems and theories. For the service which he rendered on the editorial staff of the *American Mathematical Monthly* and later on that of the *Annals of Mathematics* he was particularly well qualified.

Naturally the teaching of such a man could never be perfunctory or formal. His students found, often to their surprise, that he was not asking them to learn rules from a textbook, but was trying to encourage them to do their own thinking. Utterly sincere himself, he expected sincerity in others. The disingenuous student found his patience short and his classroom uncomfortable, but the sincere and earnest student learned in time that his patience was really inexhaustible.

David Gillespie's personal character was outstanding. To those of his colleagues who came to know him well outside of the formal relationship of the campus, he revealed a side of his character which endeared him to them by

the closer ties of friendship. True, faithful and dependable, he was incapable of any meanness or jealousy. He was not only quick in his sympathies with all that concerned his friends, but he had a rare sense of humor combined with the innate charm and courtesy of the true Virginian. Hospitable himself, he was always a welcome guest in the home of a friend. On the golf course he was the ideal companion in a foursome. To Cornell undergraduate activities he gave loyal and enthusiastic support, and was always ready to help and advise in the affairs of the local chapter of his fraternity. Towards his students he was, naturally, reserved. He did not go out of his way to win undergraduate popularity, but students recognized his friendliness and came often to consult him. At reunion time, and, indeed throughout the year, the Gillespie home was the goal of the visit of many an alumnus to Ithaca. To them he epitomized the best traditions of Cornell.

David Gillespie will be long remembered by a host of friends for his quiet effective life. In his passing the University, the community, and his personal friends have suffered a great loss.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1905 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, December, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Five*

# Professor Alexander Gray

Professor of Electrical Engineering

*March 9, 1882 — October 14, 1921*

The Faculty of Cornell University desire to express their great sorrow at the death of their colleague Alexander Gray, to record their appreciation of his services to the University, and to extend their sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

Professor Gray was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on March 9, 1882 and died in Ithaca on October 14, 1921. He graduated from Edinburgh University in Civil and Mechanical Engineering in 1903. On graduation, Edinburgh University awarded him a Whitworth Scholarship at McGill University, Montreal, where he spent two years, graduating in Electrical Engineering. After several years of practical work he returned to McGill University as an Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering. In 1915 Professor Gray was chosen to fill the position of head of the electrical engineering department of Sibley College, and at the time of his death he was Director of the School of Electrical Engineering in the College of Engineering.

From the very beginning of his work at Cornell, Professor Gray made a warm place for himself with both students and faculty. A man of fine personality, a charming companion and an exceptionally gifted teacher, he was quickly recognized as a great addition to the teaching staff of the College and to the social life of the community. His wide and unflinching interest in all matters pertaining to his profession and to the University, and his great desire to be helpful to all, made a combination of qualities found only in the true teacher.

Professor Gray contributed largely to the literature of electrical engineering. Though still a young man his books on electrical machine design and on other subjects had already made him well and favorably known to his profession, and had reflected much credit on the University. In 1918 he was the recipient from the Franklin Institute of the Howard A. Potts Medal for his paper on Modern Dynamo Electric Machinery. Professor Gray was a member of several national scientific and honorary societies, and was especially active in the work of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

In his death the profession of electrical engineering loses a brilliant engineer of great promise and a writer of established reputation; and the teaching profession loses a teacher of rare ability whose place will be difficult to fill.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1253 Adopted by The Faculty of Cornell University November Ninth, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-One*

In Cornell University, 1915-1921

Director of The School Of Electrical Engineering, 1921



# Othon Goepp Guerlac

World War Memorial Professor of the Romance Languages and Literatures

— *January 16, 1933*

The death of Professor Othon Goepp Guerlac, January 16, 1933, deprived the University faculty of a beloved colleague, the students of a friendly, inspiring teacher, and the community of Ithaca of a distinguished citizen. Professor Guerlac was born of French parentage at St. Louis in 1870, was educated in France, and received from the University of Paris the degree of Master of Arts in 1893 and the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1897. In 1900 he was appointed to be Instructor in Cornell University, was promoted, in 1904, to the rank of Assistant Professor, and in 1919 to the rank of Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures. During the war he served in France as *Attaché* to the Foreign Office, and was a member of the French High Commission to the United States. In 1919 the French government conferred upon him, in recognition of his services, the badge of the Legion of Honor, and in 1920 the University conferred upon him the title of World War Memorial Professor.

Professor Guerlac was at once a high class journalist and a scholar of distinction. For ten years he was the American Correspondent of *Le Temps*; and at the time of his death he had for many years contributed monthly articles on contemporary French politics and history to *Current History*. He translated into French Booker T. Washington's *Up From Slavery*. He edited for use in college classes a number of French works, including Anatole France's *Le livre de mon ami*, and a volume entitled *Selections from Standard French Authors*. He published, in 1931, *Les citations françaises*, a scholarly manual of French quotations, the result of many years of research, which received wide and favorable recognition.

Although a clear and trenchant writer, both of French and English prose, Professor Guerlac was best known for his skill and originality as a teacher, his sound sense as an administrator, and his varied and fruitful activities in the every day life of the community and the University. His salient qualities were a clear, precise, alert intelligence, a genial and engaging manner, a very genuine and generous interest in people, and an ever ready impulse to unite with his fellows in every sort of useful common enterprise. It is perhaps safe to say that he knew, and not by name merely, more students, university colleagues, and people in Ithaca than any other member of the faculty. He had a genius for friendship. He was indefatigable in promoting human intercourse; and, by enriching every personal contact, even the most casual, with the felicity of his greeting and the sincerity of his good will, he made it his avocation in life to cultivate and to promote the fine art of sociability.

Of Professor Guerlac it may be said, without any reservations, that his death leaves a place vacant, a place in the private lives of innumerable friends and in the public life of this community that no one else can ever fill.

*Source: Faculty Records, p. 1784. Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, September, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Three*

# Hiram Samuel Gutsell

Assistant Professor Emeritus of Architecture

*1856 — Sept. 29, 1927*

The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University record their grief at the death of Professor Gutsell, a man whose unassuming manner all but concealed his outstanding qualities of mind and heart. Those who knew him well had frequent occasion to admire and profit by his remarkable erudition in more than one field of knowledge, to respect deeply his steadfast character, and to enjoy with him the manifestations of the arts of which he was so keenly appreciative. Gentle of disposition, impatient only with sham, he made more friends than he realized, persons who valued the essential honesty of all his utterances, and who feel that in his passing the University has lost a man difficult indeed to replace.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1519 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University November, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Seven*

# William Alexander Hammond

Professor of Ancient Philosophy

— May 7, 1938

The Faculty records with sorrow the death, on May 7, 1938, of one of its most distinguished members—William Alexander Hammond.

After graduating from Harvard in 1885, teaching for three years at King's College in Canada, and studying at Leipsic where he received the doctor's degree in 1891, Professor Hammond came to Cornell as instructor in philosophy in 1891. In 1908 he was appointed to the Professorship of Ancient Philosophy which he held until his retirement. He was one of the editors of the *Philosophical Review*, from 1924. From 1920 to 1930 he served as Dean of the University Faculty. After retiring, he continued useful activity as Consultant in Philosophy at the Library of Congress.

Professor Hammond was an outstanding member of the remarkable group of men who guided the destinies of the University through a critical period of its history—a period in which it grew from a position of uncertainty and experiment to an established and honorable place among the universities of America. During his long term of active service he influenced the University for good in many ways, combining in high degree the three functions of the university professor—of scholarship, teaching, and administration. Since his retirement the memory of his example has continued to exert its influence and inspiration.

As a scholar he did valuable service in his translations of the *Characters* of Theophrastus and the *De Anima* of Aristotle, in his work as editor of the *Philosophical Review*, and, even after his retirement, in his *Bibliography of Aesthetics and the Philosophy of the Fine Arts*. As a teacher he inspired his advanced students in philosophy by his zeal for learning and pure scholarship, and his large classes of undergraduates in the Fine Arts by his enthusiasm and his humanity. Probably even more valuable was his contribution to the wise government of the University through his long service as Dean of the University Faculty and Chairman of the Committee on Student Affairs. Here his tact, his refined and lofty ethical outlook, his worldly wisdom and shrewdness, and his knowledge of men and women, both young and old, fulfilled their highest functions. He saved many a critical situation in council and government by his good humor and his gentle methods of conciliation and intermediation. At the same time he was always sturdy and outspoken in the defense of principles which he thought popular sentiment or false expediency threatened with defeat.

For his high standards of scholarship, his refinement of taste and conduct, his kindly sympathy, his breadth of mind and magnanimity, his memory will be long honored by all friends of the University.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 2057 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, June, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Eight*

Retired: June, 1930 Fac. Rec. p. 1635

# Merritt Wesley Harper

*October 24, 1877 — May 9, 1938*

We record with deepest regret the death of Professor Merritt Wesley Harper on May 9, 1938. Born on a farm in Grove City, Ohio, October 24, 1877, his entire life was spent in close relation to agriculture. He received a genuine and thorough fundamental training in farm life and farm economics under his father, James Harper, while living at home. Owing to his father's close association for many years with agricultural banking in Ohio, and his own early training in it, few men had a better knowledge of farm economic conditions and the value of land than Professor Harper. He put this knowledge to good use as a farmer in Ohio all his adult life, even while teaching in our College of Agriculture. Until his death he was successfully operating a 700-acre wheat and corn farm in Ohio.

He studied at the Ohio State University, where he was graduated in 1901, received the M.S. degree at the University of Illinois in 1902, taught for three years at the University of Missouri, and then was called to Cornell University as an assistant in Animal Husbandry. He was appointed instructor in 1906 and served as assistant professor from 1907 until 1912, when he received his professorship. He was a quiet, hard-working, clear-thinking man. He was always ready to fight for anything that he thought was right and he never hesitated to do the right thing without thought as to how it might affect him or his position. His friends and colleagues were in the habit of visiting him in his office to get his advice and comment on their problems and he will be greatly missed among them.

Professor Harper will be remembered longest as a careful writer. This is evidenced by his five books, *Manual of Farm Animals*, 1911, revised in 1924; *Practical Horse Training*, 1911; *Animal Husbandry for Schools*, 1913, revised in 1924; *Management and Breeding of Horses*, 1913; *Breeding Animals*, 1914. Through his animal husbandry books in the secondary schools, his influence has been excellent on thousands of young students in the nation. In addition to these books he has to his credit several bulletins on the feeding, training, and judging of horses. His work in the University was in the horse division of the department of Animal Husbandry, and he did considerable teaching in advanced animal genetics.

Among his former students Professor Harper is well remembered for his painstaking work and leadership in the Round-Up Club. This club was one of his main interests for many years.

# George William Harris

— Oct. 11, 1917

(Retired: June, 1915, Fac. Rec. p. 675)

The following resolutions, presented by the Secretary, were adopted by rising vote:

In the death of Librarian Emeritus George William Harris, a graduate of the class of 1873, connected with the University as student and library official for nearly half a century, Cornell loses one of its most useful, loyal and valued servants. The 42 years from 1873 to 1915, during which he was Library Assistant, Acting Librarian and Librarian, were years of service unbroken by ill health or leave of absence. A Nova Scotian by birth, on transferring his legal residence to this country he identified himself whole heartedly with its political, social and educational life.

His association with academic or vocational organizations included membership in the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the American Librarians' Association, and the Bibliographical Society of London. He edited the Ten Year Book of 1888 and the Library Bulletin. He saw the Library outgrow its little home in Morrill Hall and its more extended quarters in McGraw, and almost overflow its present spacious building erected in the early part of his administration. When he began his work the Library contained 34,000 volumes and had no endowment; at the time of his retirement it contained upwards of half a million volumes, including the priceless and almost incomparable, special collections on Dante, Petrarch and Icelandic, and was endowed with funds amounting to over \$800,000.

With this immense variety of material, his devotion to work and his unusual memory made him extraordinarily conversant. He was a master of all the details relating to the acquisition and administration of books, a conscientious steward of funds and a skilful buyer. Not only was he a scrupulous guardian of what was in the Library, but he was insistently careful as to what got into it. Many a faculty member will recall his censorship of lists of books submitted for purchase.

His way of living and thinking was Spartan-like, and his speech laconic,—brief, decided, but well considered. He spared no toil in the scrutiny of minutiae, even his handwriting and every document prepared by him exhibiting that regard for exactitude which made him an exemplar for us all. No one who knew him will forget that stoic figure, without overcoat, in the coldest days of a campus winter energetically crossing to the Library. He was a lover

of nature and of poetry. To him the Library owes the foundation for the purchase of the works of the Victorian poets, a collection which his constant care made noteworthy.

The University Faculty records its grateful appreciation of his services to the University and its deep sense of loss in the passing of a beloved colleague.

*Committee: C. E. Bennett, J. E. Creighton, W. A. Hammond, Chairman*

*Source: Records, p. 926, November 14, 1917*



## James Morgan Hart

— Apr. 18, 1916.

The following resolutions on the death of Professor James Morgan Hart were adopted by a rising vote:

“In recording the death of James Morgan Hart, Professor Emeritus of the English Language and Literature, the Faculty wishes to bear witness to the scholarly and manly qualities of the colleague whose passing is a loss to Cornell University.

Professor Hart was one of the earliest members of the faculty and gave to the university his first and his last years of service. During his long life he devoted himself with absolute unselfishness to the cause of learning as represented by his chosen field, in which he attained national distinction, and as represented by the institution to which he was so deeply attached. He administered his department with far-seeing discretion, and brought into the faculty councils a mature wisdom which went to the core of the questions at issue. He trained students to hold dear the things which were dear to him, and had the satisfaction of seeing his own men in positions of responsibility all over the country. The first insistent lesson he taught was accuracy, which he consistently termed the one pre-requisite of scholarship. As far as humanly possible he sought to impart to his students some measure of his own wholesome and abounding common-sense. A man of deliberate and well-considered carefulness in forming opinions, he manifested impatience only in the presence of the inane, the self-seeking, and the pedantic. Of honest error of judgment or to mistaken action he was sympathetically tolerant. His interest in young men was perennially fresh, and he apparently gained from them something of the inspiration which he assuredly gave. Best of all in a teacher and leader, it should be said of him that with every opportunity to impose his authority and his methods, he never tried to make disciples. A student whom he had made courageous enough to differ with him was sure of a keen, friendly, and thoughtful response; a mere echo he counted futile. Here was a man who left behind him the memory of a personality greater and finer than is common, and who established by his example a precious ideal.

*(Signed) Edw. L. Nichols, Frank Thilly, Martin W. Sampson, Chairman*

*Source: Records, p. 752, May 10, 1916*

Retried: June 1907 Fac. Rec., p. 389

# Charles Frederick Hartt

Professor of Geology

— *March 22, 1878\**

“Whereas Death has removed from our Faculty, a most esteemed associate and friend, Charles Frederick Hartt late professor of geology.

“Resolved: That we do hereby record our high appreciation of his lofty ambition, varied attainments, and success as a teacher and investigator in more than one field of research, and particularly as a Professor in this University.

“Resolved: That we mourn the loss of one who had endeared himself to us by the possession and liberal exercise of strong personal qualities of a high order, and that it is our sincere regret that the man as well as the scholar has been thus separated from our counsels

“Resolved: That we do most heartily sympathize with the stricken family of the deceased, and assure them of our tender regard, rendered all the more deep and lasting by this sudden bereavement

“Resolved: that these resolutions be engrossed on a separate page of the Minutes of this Faculty, that a copy be sent to the family of the deceased, and that they be published in Ithaca and Buffalo journals.

\* Died at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

*Source: Fac. Rec. B331*

# Eugene Elwin Haskell

Dean of the College of Civil Engineering and Professor of Experimental Hydraulics

— *January 28, 1933*

## *RETIREMENT STATEMENT*

On the retirement of Eugene Elwin Haskell, Dean of the College of Civil Engineering, from administrative and educational work in the University, the members of the Board of Trustees and of the University Faculty desire to record their appreciation of the services he has rendered to the University, and their regret at the loss of his courteous, gracious personality in the community's life.

Professor Haskell became Dean of the College of Civil engineering in 1906, giving up his position as Director of the U.S. Lake Survey to fill the office left vacant by Professor Fuertes in 1902. His long experience in executive work, his capacity for detail and his uninterrupted adherence to the duties of his position, have made themselves plainly felt in the growth of the College. Under his direction the energies of the Civil Engineering Faculty have been centralized, the course of study improved and the equipment of the College renovated and greatly increased. His final contribution to the progress of Technical Education at Cornell has been his assistance in bringing about the union of all the Colleges of Engineering in the University.

Few members of the Faculty have devoted their lives so generously to State and Nation. As a member of the International Waterways Commission to which Professor Haskell was appointed by President Roosevelt, he participated in the delicate matter of establishing accurately the boundary line between the United States and Canada from its intersection with the St. Lawrence River through the Great Lakes and communicating waters to the mouth of the Pigeon River, Lake Superior, a task finally settled to the mutual satisfaction of both countries in 1915.

As one of the Consulting Engineers of the New York Barge Canal Board, Professor Haskell passed judgment on such matters as the dam and power development at Seneca Falls, the repairs to the serious break in the canal prism at the Lockport Basin, the possibility of ice control at the Schenectady lockgates, and the failure of the canal banks at the Morrison Swamp.

As a member of the Board of Public Works of the City of Ithaca, he gave freely of his experience and engineering judgment to such problems as were involved in the improvement of the inlet, the construction of the dykes along Six Mile Creek and the dredging of the Lake Front.

His term of office as director of the American Society of Civil Engineers, 1912-1916, reflected honor on the College of Civil Engineering and the University.

The Ritchie-Haskell Current Meter, invented and constructed for the special needs of his work on the Great Lakes, is well known in engineering work for the precise measurement of sub-surface currents.

As head of the Lake Survey, long before coming to Cornell, Dean Haskell had made for himself a place deep in the hearts of such Cornell students as were then working under him. As their personal benefactor, through whose aid a college course was made possible, many other Cornell students have for him grateful memories. During these past fifteen years his earlier opportunities for giving help to young men have been multiplied many times, and his constant and invariable interest in all his student relations has been unwearied.

The trustees and Faculty wish Dean Haskell health and happiness as he takes up a new field of work, hoping that he may through many more years continue his valuable services to his fellow citizens.

*Source: Fac. Records, p. 1195, 1778 Resolutions of the Trustees and faculty of Cornell University, February 8, 1933*

Cornell: 1906–1921

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS OF DEATHS OF STAFF MEMBERS

Records p. 1778, February 8, 1933

The President announced the death of Leon Reynolds Streeter, Professor and Chief in Research at the Geneva Experiment Station on December 26, 1932; of Professor Othon Goepp Guerlac, World War Memorial Professor of the Romance Languages and Literatures, on January 16, 1933, and of Emeritus Professor Eugene Elwin Haskell, one-time Dean of the College of Civil Engineering, on January 28, 1933.

*Fac. Records, p. 1195, 1778*

# John William Hebel

Professor of English

*April 1, 1891 — February 7, 1934*

John William Hebel was born in Auburn, Indiana, April 1, 1891. He graduated from the University of Indiana in 1912, and received his Doctor's degree at Cornell in 1920. He had also studied at the University of Jena in 1910, and at the Sorbonne in 1919.

When the United States entered the World War, he enlisted as a private in the 151st Infantry of the National Guard. He attained the rank of Captain, served in various Divisions, went to France with the American Expeditionary Force and, after the Armistice, to Germany with the Army of Occupation.

Beginning as Instructor of English at Cornell in 1914, he became Professor of English in 1929.

His great interest was in English poetry, particularly that of the spacious times of Elizabeth and of the Seventeenth Century. He edited Drayton's *Endymion and Phoebe*, 1915; and (with Hoyt Hudson), *Poetry of the English Renaissance*, 1929; John Donne's *Biathanatos*, 1930. His finest and most scholarly work was an edition in five volumes of *The Works of Michael Drayton* which he prepared for the Shakespeare Head Press in England. Of this four volumes have been published and have established Professor Hebel's reputation as a scholar both in England and America. His future held great promise.

His loss to the University is both professional and personal. He was an allround man, a scholar without being a pedant. He loved life, and he knew how to make wise use of its good things. It was because of this combination of humanness and true scholarship that he was a fine teacher. Students found in him a man helpful and sympathetic; one who made them feel that literature was not a mere dust of words but a thing vital, joyous, inspiring. Hence his large following, and his effectiveness as a teacher.

Although burdened with his own work he was never too busy to give time to his Department and to committees of the Arts College and the University. In all this his energy, his geniality, and his sanity made his opinions valuable and his influence great.

This work outside his Department made him known to men in his own and other colleges, and whoever knew him became his friend.

In his passing the University has lost an able and lovable figure. As Professor Hebel he will be greatly missed in the world of scholarship and in this institution. But it is Bill Hebel whom those who knew him will chiefly mourn.

*Source: Fac. Records, p. 1831 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, April, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Four*

# Howard Drysdale Hess

— April 22, 1916

The following Resolutions were adopted by rising vote:

“The Faculty of the University records upon its minutes this memorial of Howard Drysdale Hess, Professor of Machine Design in Sibley College, whose untimely death occurred on April 22.

Professor Hess prepared for college in the schools of Philadelphia and took the M.E. degree from Lehigh University in 1896. His work in practice was in the steel industry and in structural engineering and he became general manager of the Eastern Steel Company before taking up teaching for a life work. In 1902 he became an instructor in Mechanical Engineering in Drexel Institute and two years later he was appointed associate professor in the University of Kansas. He was called to Cornell as assistant professor in the department of Machine Design in 1905 and was promoted to a professorship in 1910.

Four years ago Professor Hess published a text on Machine Design as applied to Hoists and Cranes, and a year later, a text on Graphics of Structural Design. More recent editions of these books have added testimony as to their value in the technical schools.

Professor Hess, during his stay in Ithaca, came in intimate personal contact with over twelve hundred students who have taken the M.E. degree—about a quarter of all Sibley graduates—and he won from them universal respect and affection, and influenced them toward high ideals of engineering work and of life. With his colleagues he established close and enduring friendships and his death has brought to them a deep sense of personal loss. He leaves a memory of high character, genial personality and of work well done.

*Signed: Albert W. Smith, W. N. Barnard, W. A. Hammond*

*Source: Records, p. 758, June 5, 1916*

# Waterman Thomas Hewett

Professor of The German Language and Literature

*January 10, 1846 — September 13, 1921*

On September 13th, 1921, in London, England, a sudden and painless death interrupted Waterman Thomas Hewett in the midst of that persistent search for knowledge, to which as Emeritus Professor in his seventy-sixth year he still devoted the same enthusiasm and energy that had enabled him in younger days to accomplish so much in the field of modern philology and literature. Following closely on personal letters which indicated excellent health, the news of his death came as a shock to his many associates of former years.

A graduate of Amherst College, later a student at Athens, Heidelberg, Leipzig, Berlin and Leiden, the recipient of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Cornell University, Professor Hewett was actively associated with our institution during the 40 momentous years from 1870 to 1910, first as Assistant Professor of German, later as Head of the Department of German.

Beginning his university career in the formative period of American Scholarship, he was able as author, editor and prolific contributor to educational periodicals, to aid materially in placing the study of modern languages on a firm scholarly basis. His investigations in Netherlandish, Frisian and German literature carried his name and the prestige of Cornell beyond the confines of our own country and led to his election as member of numerous foreign learned societies. He instituted the Annual Bibliography of Goethe literature in England and America and himself conducted this department of the Goethe Jahrbuch from 1880 to 1885.

Professor Hewett's interests were, however, not confined to foreign letters. His name will ever be associated with our University as that of its faithful chronicler. His first historical work appeared in 1894, to be followed later by the more comprehensive "Cornell University,—A History" published in four volumes in 1905. In 1910 he published a bibliography of the writings of Goldwin Smith. His devotion to scientific ideals, his unconquerable scholarly tenacity were evidenced perhaps even more remarkably after his retirement than during his active teaching career. By sheer power of will he overcame illness which threatened an end of all activity, and for many years, even down to the day of his death, he continued unremittingly and systematically the scholar's quest.

*Source: Fac. Rec. pps. 507, 1251 Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, October Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-One*

Assistant Professor of North European Languages, 1870—1883

Professor of The German Language and Literature, 1883—1910

Professor Emeritus of The German Language and Literature, 1910—1921



# Harry Alton Hitchcock

— *October 17, 1917*

The following resolutions, presented by Professor Kerr, were adopted by rising vote:

The University Faculty deplores the loss of Harry Alton Hitchcock, Secretary of the University, whose death on October 17, shortly after the opening of the University, followed an illness of several months.

Mr. Hitchcock entered the University in 1896 and promptly won the respect and affection of his college mates; with his teachers he left an abiding memory of a diligent and earnest student, of a sincere and honorable man.

After his graduation with the degree of Bachelor of Science and a subsequent year of graduate study in literature, he was engaged successfully in editorial work and in business management of publications and publishing houses in Boston and New York, work for which he was fitted by inclination and education. During this period he maintained his interest in the University and in the affairs of its alumni.

Called to the office of Secretary of the University, he brought to the service of Cornell a maturity and a training which were of good augury. His quiet humor, scholarly attitude, energy, and dignity gave promise of years of constructive and productive work.

Mr. Hitchcock at once displayed noteworthy capacity for his new duties. His zealous attention to the manifold demands of the office and the unfailing kindness and courtesy of his address elicited warm praise from all with whom he came in contact, officers, alumni, and students alike. His services as keeper of the alumni records, his efforts toward closer relations between the alumni and the University, and his faithful interest in the various alumni organizations in which he became an officer, no less than his energetic direction of the details of routine, are abundant evidence of his activity, ability, and devotion.

It was given him to enjoy but a year of the congenial new life upon which he had entered when the insidious disease which took him away stole on him almost without warning. After a brave struggle for strength, and final recourse to surgery, he faced the inevitable with courage.

His death, in the fullness of his powers, deprives the University of a faithful servant, the Faculty of a trusted counsellor and friend.

*Committee: W. Austen, B. S. Monroe, A. T. Kerr, Chairman*

# Herbert Andrew Hopper

Professor of Animal Husbandry

— *November 26, 1937*

In the death of Herbert Andrew Hopper on November 26, 1937, Cornell University lost one of the pioneers in agricultural extension work in New York State and in the nation. Professor Hopper had served the University in his agricultural extension duties for twenty-seven years, having been the first extension specialist in the department of Animal Husbandry. In spite of ill health for the past several years, he had continued in his work with indomitable courage until only a few days before his death.

Professor Hopper was born on a farm in Tompkins County and was graduated from the New York State College of Agriculture in 1903, specializing in dairying and in bacteriology. From 1903 to 1907 he was instructor in dairy husbandry at the University of Illinois, and he received the degree of Master of Science from that institution. While he was in Illinois, Professor Hopper inaugurated a system of testing dairy herds for production which was one of the forerunners of the present-day system of herd testing.

From 1907 to 1908 he was extension dairy husbandman at Purdue University and went from there to the University of California, where he was assistant professor of dairy husbandry until 1911. At the University of California, Professor Hopper started a dairy course for butter and cheese makers and began a series of educational butter-scoring contests for buttermakers, which have been continued since that time.

In 1911 Professor Hopper returned to New York and operated his dairy farm near Ithaca, serving on the extension staff of the College of Agriculture during the winters as extension specialist and assistant professor of animal husbandry. Two years later he took up full-time duties as extension professor of animal husbandry, which position he held at the time of his death. He served as project leader in Animal Husbandry Extension until in 1928 poor health forced a reduction in his duties.

Professor Hopper exerted an exceedingly important influence in the development of the dairy industry of this State. He was one of the pioneers in conducting official production tests of purebred dairy cattle, and in 1915 he made one of the earliest studies on the cost of producing milk in New York. On account of his keen mind and sound judgment, his advice was valued highly by dairymen throughout the State and by his colleagues in this institution.

The Cornell University Faculty desires at this time to express its appreciation of the faithful and courageous service rendered by Professor Hopper.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 2056 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, June, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Eight*

**David Fletcher Hoy**  
Registrar and Member of the Faculty

— *December 6, 1930*

A truly vital character passed into Cornell history when David Fletcher Hoy suddenly ceased his labors for the institution that he loved so well.

To some, even while still in his active, duty-crowded career, he had become a tradition of Cornell going back to distant days.

He had merited the respect and confidence of those whose contacts were with him as an administrative officer.

But his death has brought deepest sorrow and a sense of personal loss to all that group that loved him for those friendly graces which were experienced in such full measure by all who were so fortunate as to come into intimate association with him.

The University Faculty, of which he was an honored member, would record their admiration for a colleague whose devotion to the University at no time knew a limit; helpful, wise, efficient, he was available at every season with generous cooperation.

Linking us with the University's early days, he was an active factor in the expansion of the institution. To his steady hand and high ideals cherished with unswerving devotion. Cornell owes a debt of deepest gratitude.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1667 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, September, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-One*

# Ernest Wilson Huffcut

— *May 4, 1907*

The Faculty of the University records upon its minutes this memorial of Ernest Wilson Huffcut whose beneficent influence upon the life and work of the University extended far beyond his daily service to the College of Law of which he was the distinguished Director.

He was closely identified with the University as student or teacher for more than twenty years and always a potent factor in its varied activities. Entering Cornell in 1880 he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1888. Here he was instructor in English from 1885 to 1888; professor of Law from 1893 to 1903 and Dean of the Law Faculty and Director of the College of Law from 1903 until his untimely death in the present year.

Possessed of logical understanding of his theme, rare eloquence and perfect clarity of expression, a large intellectual and social sympathy and a dominant instinct for progressive action, he was accorded a foremost place by his fellow workers in the field of legal education in this country. These same attributes won for him a like regard in the deliberations of this Faculty and its committees, and in his relations with alumni and student organizations. His spirit of devoted service to his University in all its concerns—those of lesser importance as well as those more vital to its welfare—was ever voiced with persuasive grace and practical wisdom. In the death of Dean Huffcut the State has been deprived of an exemplar of civic duty and Cornell University has lost a most gifted and loyal son.

*F. Irvine, E. H. Woodruff, G. L. Burr, C. H. Hull*

*Source: Records, p. 384, June 7, 1907*

# Charles Henry Hull

Goldwin Smith Professor of American History

*September 29, 1864 — July 15, 1936*

Charles Henry Hull was born in Ithaca, September 29, 1864. He graduated from Cornell University in 1886, was appointed Assistant Librarian in 1889, and the year following went to Germany, where he studied economics and history for two years, receiving the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Halle in 1892. Returning to Cornell as Instructor in Political and Social Institutions, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Political Economy in 1893, Professor of American History in 1901, and Goldwin Smith Professor of American History in 1912. He retired from active service in 1931, in excellent health and in the prime of his intellectual powers, only to be prostrated by an obscure and painful disease which he endured with great fortitude until his death, July 15, 1936.

Residing virtually all his life in the place of his birth, Professor Hull's activities were identified, in a singularly happy and useful way, with the City of Ithaca and Cornell University, both of which he served untiringly and to their great advantage. His knowledge of men and things, his sound judgment, and his integrity in thought and conduct made it inevitable that honors and responsibilities should be incessantly thrust upon him. He served as Secretary of the University Faculty, as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and as Faculty representative on the Board of Trustees. His knowledge and love of books, and his competence in the purchase and care of them, was of incalculable assistance to those in charge of the library. He was one of the founders and the first president of the Co-operative Society. He served as president of the Town and Gown Club, and was one of those who did most to make it an agreeable and a useful meeting place for faculty members and townsmen. He served as Vice President of the Ithaca Community Chest, as President of the Hospital Association, as a member of the Ithaca Board of Education, as a Director of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Cornell Library Association. It would be difficult to name a man who, so unobtrusively and with so little self-seeking, was so incessantly and so competently occupied with the practical affairs of the community and the university which he loved.

Although immersed in practical affairs, Professor Hull always regarded teaching as the first of his obligations. Countless men and women throughout the country will remember him as a teacher and a friend. They will remember that he was exacting in his requirements, unerring in detecting and caustic in exposing slipshod or dishonest effort. They will remember still better the acute intelligence, the vivid personality of the man, the genuine interest he took in their work, the time he freely gave in helping them to do it well. Best of all, they will remember

that he was their friend as well as their teacher, that he always met them as individuals, without aloofness or condescension, and that no one was ever more warmly sympathetic, or more ready with substantial aid, when they came to him for advice in any personal trouble.

As a scholar, Professor Hull achieved high distinction. He was one of those who can acquire wide and exact knowledge, and who possess as a native endowment that critical insight, that constructive imagination, and that sympathetic understanding which, applied to knowledge, lead to wisdom. His edition of *The Economic Writings of Sir William Petty*, published when he was thirty-four years of age, was at once pronounced by competent critics, in Europe and America, to be in its kind a masterpiece without blemish. The dominant characteristic of his mind was an insatiable intellectual curiosity—the desire to know what is true in order to understand what is possible and desirable to be done. “I am inclined to think,” he once said, “that there are no uninteresting subjects, there are only uninterested people.” By virtue of a happy union of erudite learning and an analytical intelligence of the first order, he could find any subject interesting by disclosing its essential nature and its significant relations. Whether in the study occupied with books, or among men occupied with affairs, he was ever engaged in research in the original and best sense of that term— engaged in searching more profoundly into the truth of alleged facts, into the validity of accepted conclusions.

We admired Professor Hull for his competence, we honored him for what he did; but we loved and revered him for what he was. We loved him for his sincerity, for his unflinching courtesy and kindness, for his indefeasible integrity. We loved him for the serenity with which he met good and evil fortune, for the subtle humor that disarmed contentiousness, for the ironic understatement that deflated high claims, for the instinctive generosity that promoted good will. We shall remember him as he went about among us, never idle, yet never hurried, and ever ready to lend himself to our necessities. Those of us whose work brought us into close association with him can never forget how free we always were to consult him on any subject, simple or recondite, that might concern us. We shall not forget the genuine modesty with which he would first of all assure us that he knew very little about the matter; nor forget that he would then, in his calm and leisurely manner, in sentences elaborate and unconfined, sinuously intricate and infinitely qualified, set before us a reticulated pattern of relevant facts and of the circumstances that occasioned them, from which there would emerge the conclusions that seemed to him tentatively tenable. Nor shall we forget that he would then sincerely apologize for not being able to be of any real assistance to us. Least of all shall we forget how all but impossible it was to come away from such conferences without having our knowledge increased from his store, our insight quickened by his criticism, our judgment fortified and our wisdom deepened by the easy play of his profound and flexible intelligence.

Those who speak of Charles Henry Hull have no need to recall the precaution *de mortuis nil nisi bonum*. In his life as in his death, as a scholar and as a colleague, as a man and as a citizen, above all as a friend, there is nothing but good that can be said or will be remembered of him. He was a man whose character and conduct challenged pessimism and engendered courage by exhibiting, consistently and in rare perfection, those qualities of intelligence and good will that are essential to a life that is at once wisely ordered and memorable.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1949 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, January, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Seven*

Retired: June 1931 Fac. Rec. p. 1726



# John Irwin Hutchinson

Professor of Mathematics

— *December 1, 1935*

Cornell University and the City of Ithaca were shocked by the sudden death, on December 1, 1935, of John Irwin Hutchinson.

He had given more than forty-one years of service to Cornell, as instructor (1894), assistant professor (1903), and professor (1910) of mathematics. He came to Cornell University as Instructor in Mathematics in 1894, at the time when it had been decided to choose as instructors mature men who should participate both in giving advanced instruction and in directing the investigations of mature students. He had recently received his doctorate at the new University of Chicago, and was indeed its first recipient of that degree in mathematics. He began actively to discharge the duties and responsibilities of his position here. He was one of the founders and most active members of the Oliver Mathematical Club, organized for the purpose of hearing and subjecting to searching criticism addresses on the reading and research of its members. He took part in all grades of instruction. Several elementary textbooks, written in conjunction with colleagues, had long popularity, not only in the University, but throughout the United States. His advanced courses and his research were chiefly in analysis, but usually in fields closely allied to topics in geometry, the theory of groups, and the theory of numbers. Among his original productions, two achievements deserve particular mention for their permanent value and the attention they attracted here and abroad: the introduction of the isometric circle in connection with automorphic functions, and the discovery of the infinite group of birational transformations of the general Kummer surface.

Hutchinson played an active role almost from the start in the new American Mathematical Society. He was a frequent contributor to its Bulletin and was one of the first assistant editors of its Transactions, launched in 1900,—an office which he held until failing health led him to relinquish it fifteen years later. In 1904 he was one of the major speakers at the international meeting of mathematicians held in connection with the World's Fair at St. Louis.

A nervous breakdown in 1911 interrupted his work for some time. On his recovery he devoted his energies, with his former skill and penetration, to the generalized zeta-function in the analytic theory of numbers. These contributions also received recognition and praise from other specialists.

In addition to the logical intellect of the mathematician, Hutchinson had a great love of all beauty whether in nature or in art. His knowledge of astronomy gave him keen interest in the starry heavens, and his love of nature was evinced in his appreciation of, and delight in the cultivation of flowers; in the songs of birds, and in the play of light and shade on the distant hillside. Early training as a pianist and lifelong cultivation of a discriminating taste for fine music, were sources of deep satisfaction to him. In literature his mind was stored with a knowledge of both ancient and modern classics from which he derived much of his intellectual recreation. To those few of his colleagues and friends who knew him intimately, was revealed something of the rare strength and beauty of his gifted personality.

His life was gentle; and the elements  
So mixed in him that Nature might stand up  
And say to all the world, *This was a man!*

To Mrs. Hutchinson we extend our heartfelt condolences; we rejoice that we could share with her in the beneficent influence of a sincere, rich, and useful life.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1913 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, February, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Six*

# George William Jones

— *October 29, 1911*

We, the members of the University Faculty, desire to place on record a tribute of respect to the memory of an honored colleague, Professor George William Jones, a detailed appreciation of whose life and work was placed in our minutes on the occasion of his retirement from active service in 1907.

As a teacher he labored with unwearied patience and undivided loyalty to inculcate the best intellectual attainments of clear thinking, sound reasoning, and accurate exposition. His ideals were of the highest, and towards their realization he exacted of himself and of his students a whole-hearted devotion.

As a citizen he conceived nobly and enforced faithfully his obligations, in promoting charitable and philanthropic work, in efforts to improve the moral environment of the student, and in extending a helping hand to those in need of aid or encouragement.

To the bereaved family of our late associate and friend we express our warmest sympathy and regard.

*Source: Records, p. 533, November 10, 1911*

## ***RETIREMENT STATEMENT***

“On the retirement of Professor George William Jones from active participation in the work of the Cornell University Faculty after a distinguished service of thirty years, we the members of that faculty desire to place on record our high estimate of his worth as a teacher, a colleague and a man.

Joining the Department of Mathematics before the end of the first decade of its history, already a teacher of ripe experience, he bore an honorable part in the formative years, and during the still more critical period of rapid expansion which followed, in helping to shape those sound educational ideals which have prevailed in that department.

The influence of Professor Jones has been carried far beyond the bounds of the University both by his text-books and by the large number of successful teachers who have received at least part of their training in his class-room. Like many other sound mathematicians he has given much attention to the philosophy of the fundamental concepts, and to the pedagogical value of mathematical studies in a scheme of liberal education. Being a born teacher he

has always adapted himself easily to the capacity of his pupils. A master of the Socratic method, he would probe to the bottom of the student's knowledge by judicious questions, and then build on solid foundations. He has been wont to say that the mathematical class-room should be not merely a lecture room, but also a laboratory, a place for drill in applied logic. Many of his students have said that they received their first notion of what sound reasoning means from the searching and kindly criticism of Professor Jones.

The logical bent of his mind is well exemplified in his text-books of algebra and trigonometry, in which those subjects are each beaten out into a chain of carefully stated theorems and problems after the manner of Euclid's Geometry, there being never a word wasted and no long word used where a short one would do as well.

In matters of discipline Professor Jones has always shown a fine blending of firmness and kindness; and he has been helpful and friendly to all, both inside and outside the class-room. It will never be known how many scores of persons have gone to him each year for advice and guidance, and have been helped by him, pecuniarily and otherwise, his ready aid to the needy extending even beyond his means. His helpfulness is of a tonic quality, and he has no countenance for the shirk or the law-breaker until they show fruits of repentance. He is regarded by a long line of Cornell men and women as an embodiment of the manly Christian virtues, and by the people of Ithaca as a useful and public-spirited citizen.

Professor Jones has also been conscientious in attention to the business of the faculty, and he takes a deep interest in questions of educational policy. A man of well-poised judgment, he does his own thinking, and is not easily misled by high-sounding phrases that may make the worse appear the better reason. We shall long remember how he has been wont, in few but pregnant words, with old-fashioned courtesy, to express his earnest advocacy of whatever promotes good order and sound scholarship.

At all times and places he is an example of soldierly devotion to duty; a champion of good causes, however unpopular; a friend of the weak and friendless; an enemy of none but evil doers; and a wise helper of all who wish to live nobly. His work is not done, even at three score years and ten. May he stay with us long!

*Source: Fac. Records, p. 389 6/18/07*

# Abram Tucker Kerr

*January 7, 1873 — August 15, 1938*

After years of faithful service to Cornell University, Abram Tucker Kerr died on August 15, 1938. He was born in Buffalo, New York, on January 7, 1873. There he attended the public schools. After obtaining his B.S. at Cornell in 1895 he returned to Buffalo as a medical student and received the M.D. degree from the University of Buffalo in 1897. While studying medicine he was student assistant in histology and pathology and in 1898-1900 was acting and adjunct professor of Anatomy in the University of Buffalo. He studied at Göttingen in 1899 and at Johns Hopkins in 1899-1900. He was called to Cornell in 1900 as assistant professor of Anatomy and became professor of that subject in 1904. He became the administrative head of the Ithaca division of the Medical College in 1902 and held that office for thirty-six years.

In addition to his heavy load of teaching and administrative duties he found time to serve the University whenever the need arose. No sacrifice of time or effort was too great when the interests of Cornell were involved. Older members of the faculty will recall with feeling his unselfish services in one of the greatest emergencies this University has ever been called upon to face—the tragic typhoid epidemic in 1903. They will recall, too, his calm, efficient handling of the crisis that came with the influenza epidemic in 1918. Dr. Kerr played a leading part in the reorganization of the Cornell Infirmary; to him its staff turned constantly for advice. He acted as chairman of the Trustees' Committee on Hygiene and Sanitation from its formation in 1909 to his death. He organized the health services of Cornell and served as acting professor of Hygiene in 1920-21 and again in 1935-36. His organizing capacities were called upon to help solve the traffic problem on the campus, which had become acute with the rapid increase in the use of the automobile.

He was deeply interested in the health problems of the City of Ithaca and served from 1911 to 1912 as president and subsequently for several terms as vice-president of the board of trustees of the Ithaca Memorial Hospital. By his colleagues in the medical profession he was made president of the Tompkins County Medical Society in 1910. As a member of the executive committee of the American Association of Anatomists from 1910-1914, and as a contributor to standard textbooks on Anatomy, he played his part in the development of his chosen field.

But in spite of his wide interests and varied activities the Ithaca Division of the Medical College, which he served devotedly for thirty-eight years, remained closest to his heart and to it he devoted his best efforts. He survived its dissolution a little more than two months.

## Doctor James Law

Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery

*February 13, 1838 — May 10, 1921*

The career of James Law embraced the first fifty years of the history of Cornell University. He was a member of the first Faculty which began its work in October, 1868, and until his death, May 10, 1921, either as active or emeritus professor his services to the University and his adopted country were continuous and invaluable.

It was significant that in the young University almost the first professorship created was of a subject that had at that time no academic standing in America, and the value of which to purely scientific studies and to the welfare of the State was scarcely dreamed of. To Ezra Cornell was due the recognition of that subject; and to Andrew White was due the recognition of the equal value of all subjects of academic study.

No choice could have been happier from these two points of view. The new professor had been trained in the best schools of Europe under the most famous teachers of their day, and was himself of such personal dignity of character as to impress all who met him with the conviction that he was of the highest type of scholar and man.

Although his chair was but one of many in the new university, Dr. Law by his own broad knowledge practically founded a course in Veterinary Medicine, and furnished the country with graduates who later organized the National Control of Animal Diseases.

It was the broad knowledge of every branch of his subject and his practical application of it to the problems of animal industry in the United States that won for him and the University, which he served so faithfully, the recognition by the State of New York and the Federal Government of his accomplishments; and which led to the creation, in 1894, of the New York State Veterinary College, the first state veterinary college in America.

During the interval between 1868 and 1894, Dr. Law had, almost single-handed, accomplished a revolution in the conception of the knowledge and practice of Veterinary Medicine in the United States, and had raised it to a rank coordinate with human medicine. His persistent effort in raising the standard of veterinary education has found expression not only in the institution of which he was head, but also in the veterinary colleges of America.

He was a great teacher because he was a great scholar, and he pursued his unremitting labors almost to the last hour of his long and honored life. He won the affection and respect of all who knew him, and the University owes him for his splendid example of unselfish devotion, gratitude which cannot be expressed in words.

*Source: Fac. Rec, p. 1129* Joint Resolutions Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, June, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-One

### **Chronology**

Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, 1868 – 1896

Professor of the Principles and Practice of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Science, and Veterinary Therapeutics, 1896 – 1908

Director of The New York State Veterinary College and Dean of Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, 1896 – 1908

Emeritus Professor of The Principles and Practice of Veterinary Medicine, 1908 – 1921

# Myron A. Lee

*March 21, 1887 — May 8, 1938*

Professor Myron A. Lee died on May 8, 1938, after a brief illness. His untimely death removes one of the pioneer minds that have led the progress of the College of Engineering in recent years.

He was born in Auburn, New York, on March 21, 1887, and attended the public schools in that city. He graduated from Cornell University in 1909 with the degree of mechanical engineer. After employment by the Western Electric Company at Hawthorne, Illinois, he returned to Cornell in 1910 as an instructor in Machine Design. He received the degree of master of mechanical engineering in 1913. In 1916 he was promoted to an assistant professorship in Machine Design. The new course in Industrial Engineering was then being developed and Professor Lee was transferred to that work in 1921. In 1924 he was advanced to a professorship in Industrial Engineering and was soon made head of the department, and he held that position until his death.

During the summer vacations and sabbatic leaves of absence Professor Lee spent much time in practical work with the McIntosh Seymour Company of Auburn, the General Electric Company, the Thomas-Morse Aircraft Corporation of Ithaca, and the Gleason Works at Rochester. For some time he was in charge of standardization work at the International Business Machine Corporation in Endicott. He was therefore well informed as to both the theory and the practice of his profession and because of this wide knowledge he was an unusually excellent teacher.

He was a man of kindly and helpful disposition and his ready smile will be greatly missed. Always willing to give unsparingly of his time and effort, he combined sound technical instruction with a common-sense practical philosophy which gave the student that extra incentive which only a real teacher can impart. He will be remembered with affection by a large number of alumni. He will be missed equally by his colleagues, who always held him in high regard.

His publications include three books published by the International Correspondence Schools and used widely as textbooks, namely, *Motion and Time Study*, *Motion Economy*, and *Wage Payments*, and many articles contributed to the technical and business magazines. He was a member of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education and of the honorary societies of Sigma Xi, Tau Beta Pi, and Atmos. He was also a past master of Hobasco Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, a director of the Young Men's Christian Association, and a member of St. John's Episcopal Church.



# Thomas Lyttleton Lyon

*February 17, 1869 — October 7, 1938*

The death of Emeritus Professor Thomas Lyttleton Lyon at his home in Ithaca on October 7, 1938, removed from the Faculty of Cornell University one of its most eminent and highly regarded members. In his field of soil science he is known the world over, and his textbooks are used in most American institutions where instruction in pedology and edaphology is offered. His work on the various phases of the nitrogen cycle, his lysimeter studies and his cereal investigations are internationally noteworthy. His published scientific articles and bulletins are many. His career was long, busy, and crowded with successes.

He was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, on February 17, 1869, was prepared for college at the Pittsburgh High School, and graduated from Cornell University in 1891. Later he studied with Professor Tollens at the University of Göttingen and with Professor Caldwell at Cornell. He received his Ph.D. degree from Cornell in 1904.

In 1891 young Lyon accepted an instructorship in Chemistry at the University of Nebraska. Here he served until 1906, having been promoted to a professorship in Agriculture. From 1899 to that date he was also assistant director of the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station. While in Nebraska he was married to Bertha L. Clark of Lincoln. Two sons added much to the happiness of his married life.

In 1906 he was called to Cornell University by Dean Bailey to become professor of Experimental Agronomy and in 1912 was made head of the department of Soil Technology, now the department of Agronomy. As head of this department he served the State of New York and Cornell University wisely and well until his retirement on July 1, 1937.

Although Dr. Lyon made several notable scientific contributions while at the University of Nebraska, his most valuable work was done at Cornell. Caldwell Field, named in memory of his former teacher, Professor George Chapman Caldwell, was the site of his lysimeter and plat experimentations and other field studies. Caldwell Field and the chemical laboratories in Caldwell Hall were for years a mecca for persons interested in soil science from all over the world.

Because of his amiable disposition and broad cultural background Dr. Lyon had many loyal friends. As a companion he was genial and delightfully conversant with almost any subject that might be broached. Many still

remember him in his more vigorous days before ill health began to curtail his social activities. His considerate companionship, his quiet, dignified efficiency, his high ideals and the soundness of his scientific research mark a man whom it was good to know.

# Georges Mauxion

— *May 15, 1917*

The following resolutions on the late Professor Mauxion, prepared by a committee of the University Faculty appointed by the President and consisting of Professors Martin and Mason, were approved by the Secretary for record in the minutes of June 13:

Whereas, our esteemed colleague, Professor Georges Mauxion, after three years of active service in the Army of France, has made the supreme sacrifice of his life in the great world struggle for the peace and liberty of nations, we who have known him as friend and co-worker in the University desire to record here our appreciation of his scholastic attainments, his ability as a teacher, his simple integrity and gentleness as a member of our community, and his heroic sacrifice in our common cause ; and we desire to express, so far as we may, our profound sense of loss in his death, and to convey to his family, whom this blow leaves broken and desolate, our deepest sympathy.

*Source: Records, p. 913, June 13, 1917*

# George Robert McDermott

Professor of Naval Architecture

*1860 — May 26, 1937*

Professor Emeritus George Robert McDermott, who for many years taught Naval Architecture in the College of Engineering, Cornell University, passed away on May 26, 1937.

Professor McDermott was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1860. He received his engineering education in the Andersonian Institute of Glasgow, then entered the employ of the famous Clydebank Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, where the Queen Mary and many other famous ships have been constructed, rising to the position of Naval Architect and Assistant to the Shipyard Manager. In 1890 he joined the Southampton Naval Works as Naval Architect and Assistant to the General Manager. He came to Cornell in 1891 as Assistant Professor of Naval Architecture, and was promoted to full professorship in 1904. From that date until his retirement in 1929 he was in charge of the work in Naval Architecture in the College of Engineering at Cornell.

Professor McDermott was much in demand as a consulting engineer, the Cunard and other steamship lines calling upon him frequently for advice. During the years 1910-12, while on leave of absence from the University, he was appointed by the Brazilian Government as Engineer-in-chief in the organization and construction of the Naval Repair Station of Lloyd Brasileiro at Ilka de Mucangue, Rio de Janeiro. Again on leave from the University in 1917, he was appointed by General George W. Goethals as District Officer of the U. S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation and afterwards was appointed by Chairman E. N. Hurley as District Officer of the Corporation, which position he filled until the end of the World War.

He was always very active in the broader aspects of naval work and was recognized as an authority in such matters. In 1921 he was appointed by the United States Government as Chairman of the Government Commission on Loadlines of Mercantile Vessels for the Atlantic and Gulf Division, and he was a member of many committees interested in Marine problems. He was a member of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, of Sigma Xi and Tau Beta Pi, and he was the author of many papers and several books in his field, notably, the “Screw Propeller Computer” and “Textbook on Screw Propellers.”

Professor McDermott was a most excellent teacher. His own scientific background was thorough and he had no patience with weak or slipshod methods of instruction. He was a thorough believer in instilling what he always described as the “fundamentals” into the minds of his students. Yet his vigorous lectures and his rigid

classroom instruction were tempered with rare humor and a winning smile. Those who elected his work were always enthusiastic over it and the success of his students bears witness to the soundness of his methods. He was a sociable man, widely informed, honest, upright, and lovable. He will be missed by a host of friends.'

*Source: Fac. Rec, pps. 1607, 2008 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, November, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Seven*

# James McMahan

Professor of Mathematics

1865 — June 1, 1922

Our highly esteemed friend and honored colleague, Professor James McMahan, has suddenly gone from among us. He died on the morning of June 1st, 1922, in his sixty-seventh year, after an illness of only a few hours. We the Trustees and Faculty of the University wish to record on our minutes our feeling of grief and our sense of the great loss that has come to us because of his death. We cannot yet fully realize that we shall see him no more in this life.

In our resolutions on Professor McMahan's retirement from active service in May, 1921, mention was made of his inspiring and helpful influence on the generations of students who have passed through his class-room during the many years of his service at Cornell, of his fine spirit of cooperation in the work of his colleagues in the application of Mathematics to problems in other fields, and of his wise though quiet influence in the larger affairs of national scientific organizations; but all of these outstanding merits of the man are completely overshadowed by the profound sense of our personal loss of an especially valued friend.

Modest of his own high attainments, generous of his time and counsel in assisting others to win success and renown, utterly unselfish and living a most exemplary Christian life, his going from among us is an irreparable loss—a loss commensurate with the inspiration and blessing that have come to us here at Cornell because of his many years of life and service among us.

*Source: Fac. Rec. 1210, 1289 Resolutions Adopted By The Trustees And Faculty Of Cornell University June, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Two*

Instructor, Assistant Professor and Professor of Mathematics, 1884-1922

# Adelbert Philo Mills

Assistant Professor of Materials

*November 10, 1883 — October 20, 1918*

The Faculty of Cornell University mourn the sudden death while in the United States service in France of Captain Adelbert Philo Mills. The circumstances of his death, arising directly from eager, unremitting, and unselfish devotion to duty to his country, is largely typical of his previous devotion to the welfare of the University. After hard training periods at Camp Lee and Camp Oglethorpe, Captain Mills overworked himself seriously in the preparation of his regiment for embarkation. His hope for ample rest on the sea voyage was not realized, for the influenza epidemic struck down nearly all of the officers on the transport, Captain Mills being one of only four officers capable of service on the ship. Weakened by the long strain of doubled hours and duties, he fell an easy victim to meningitis from which on October 20, only about a week after his arrival in France, he died at Brest.

Captain Mills was born November 10, 1883, graduated from the University of Michigan in 1906 as Bachelor of Science in engineering, and in 1909 as Master of Science. In 1909 he was appointed Acting Assistant Professor, and in 1910 Assistant Professor of Materials in the College of Civil Engineering, Cornell University. During the years of his service in this university he reorganized successfully the elementary and advanced courses in Materials of Construction and Engineering Laboratory in his college. With a keen mind and the will to work tirelessly to the accomplishment of thoroughness, he made a place for himself by productive scholarship and high standards of performance for his students.

As a consulting engineer, he carried out a number of technical researches, important both for the improvement of industrial manufacturing processes and for the advancement of engineering knowledge. In some investigations made by him he cooperated with committees of the American Society of Testing Materials. His work as a teacher was marked by the production of a 700-page book on Materials of Construction, published in 1915 and now extensively adopted as a college textbook and as a reference book by practicing engineers. In discussing educational policies, he stood uncompromisingly for a broad study of fundamental subjects rather than for high specialization in their application, as the training best fitted to prepare engineering undergraduates for their professional career.

In his death the University and the College of Civil Engineering especially suffer a serious loss.

*Source: Fac. Rec. 1029 Adopted By The Faculty of Cornell University on The Eighth Day of January, Nineteen Hundred And Nineteen.*

## **Lua Alice Minns**

Assistant Professor of Floriculture

*January 31, 1873 — February 21, 1935*

Lua Alice Minns was born on a farmstead at Lodi, Ohio, January 31, 1873. After graduating from the local high school she was employed in a bank in Lodi for several years before entering the College of Agriculture at Cornell University, where she received the B.S. degree in 1914 and an M.S. in Agriculture in 1918.

Endowed with a natural love for flowers, Professor Minns early in life acquired a broad and accurate knowledge of cultivated plants. This, together with her superior scholarship, attracted the attention of Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey and Professor John Craig, which led to her appointment as Assistant in the Department of Horticulture in her junior year. With the creation of the Department of Floriculture in 1914, Miss Minns was made an Instructor and in 1933 Assistant Professor, a position which she held until her death, February 21, 1935.

Professor Minns was outstanding for her scientific and practical knowledge of garden flowers. The Demonstration Garden at the corner of Garden Avenue and Tower Road was the colorful result of her painstaking care under very difficult soil conditions. As a teacher of amateur flower-growing and garden flowers she is remembered by the many students who, under her guidance, gained knowledge and inspiration for gardens of their own. She showed special interest in women's work in horticulture and followed closely the work of all women graduates from the department. She was a member of the Women's National Farm and Garden Association, Sigma Xi, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Professor Minns's many friends in the University community, among the townspeople, and particularly in the Ithaca Garden Club, recall her helpful interest in their garden problems of whatever nature. In her death the University loses a friendly, helpful personality that played a most useful part in the life of the whole community. The Cornell University Faculty desires at this time to pay a tribute of deep respect and of affectionate regard to the memory of Professor Minns.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1904 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, December, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Five*



# George Sylvanus Moler

Professor of Physics

— *May 20, 1932*

In the death of Professor George Sylvanus Moler, Cornell University loses an alumnus and member of its Faculty who, through his achievement in applied science and his work during nearly fifty years as a thorough and sympathetic teacher, has exerted a strong influence for good among his colleagues and among the many students who have benefited by his instruction.

Immediately after graduation from Cornell in 1875 he joined the teaching staff in physics and as an instructor, assistant professor, and professor he remained an active member of the department of Physics until his retirement in 1917. With Professor William A. Anthony he soon after built what is believed to have been the first dynamo made in America, which was displayed and operated at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876 and subsequently used to operate two arc lights for the illumination of the Cornell Campus. The construction of this dynamo marked the beginning of electrical engineering instruction in this country; under Professor Moler, in annexes back of Sibley and Franklin Hall, there was developed the famous “dynamo laboratory,” in which many leaders in the fast growing electrical industry received their early training and an inspiration from Professor Moler’s personality.

Always working and trying something new, he had the knack of making a thing “go” and a patience and perseverance, not only in the execution of the work but in explaining it to his students, that caused them to become absorbed in his ideas and imbued with his enthusiasm.

Although deeply interested in electricity, Professor Moler did not confine his attention to this field. His photographic laboratory was noteworthy. Always interested in improving experimental technique in physics, he became engrossed at one time in photometry and the study of illumination; later in x-rays, when he took one of the first x-ray photographs made in this country. Many practical devices in Rockefeller Hall are due to his ingenuity and foresight.

Professor Moler was always practical. With little thought of self, he gave unstintingly of his time in aiding his many friends in town as well as in college circles. Many a practical problem—perhaps the adjustment of a church organ or a regulator for the college clock—was taken to Professor Moler for solution. He was at his best when helping others. When we think of Professor Moler, we do not think first of his ability and resourcefulness; what

comes most vividly to our minds is the picture of his kind nature and unselfish helpfulness. These are the traits that won our hearts and will continue to make his memory dear.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1737, 1755 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, November, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Two*

Retired, June 1917 (Fac. Rec. p. 910)

## **Veranus Alva Moore**

Dean of the N. Y. State Veterinary College

*April 13, 1859 — February 11, 1931*

The University Faculty records with deep sorrow the death on February 11, 1931 of Veranus Alva Moore, late dean of the N. Y. State Veterinary College.

Born on April 13, 1859, he entered Cornell University in 1883 and graduated with the degree of B.S., in 1887. In the spring of his senior year, he entered the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Federal Department of Agriculture where he served nine years, the last one as chief of the Division of Animal Pathology. While in Washington he studied medicine and received the M. D. degree in 1890.

At the opening of the Veterinary College in 1896, Dr. Moore was appointed Professor of Pathology, Bacteriology and Meat Inspection, a position which he held continuously until his retirement. In 1908 he succeeded Dr. James Law as Dean of the College and as such served for twenty-one years. From 1898-1910 he was Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology in the Ithaca division of the Medical College.

Primarily interested in Veterinary education at a time when the general public little appreciated the need and importance of trained veterinarians, Dr. Moore did an inestimable service by instilling into the public consciousness an appreciation of the vast responsibilities resting upon a sound scientific veterinary service in the promotion of public health.

His training as a bacteriologist and pathologist gave him a keen insight into the close correlation between many of the diseases common to animals and man, and ideally fitted him to advocate public health measures of far reaching importance to both State and Nation. He likewise rendered an incalculable service to the livestock owners of the country by his research and his sound advice.

He published many special papers, gave numerous addresses, and prepared books in his field. A teacher for more than thirty years, his influence upon successive generations of students was profound and he inspired them with something of his own high ideals for their chosen profession. His quiet dignity and exceptional ability won for him the highest admiration and affection of all his colleagues.

In a wider circle of his relations, the same high appreciation of his character and abilities is apparent. His successive appointments as delegate of the United States to the International Veterinary Conference in Budapest; Member

of the International Commission for the control of tuberculosis in cattle; member of the Commission for revising the Federal Meat Inspection regulations; an Adviser to the Surgeon General's Office in the World War; member of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, all alike are indicative of the confidence felt by public officials in the wisdom of his counsels and his single minded desire to promote the public well-being. In addition he gave generously of his time to the local Board of Health, Board of Education, Memorial Hospital, and other organizations.

The bestowal of honorary degrees upon Dr. Moore by two great universities and his recent election to membership in the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in London are well merited academic honors.

A successful and sympathetic teacher, just administrator, wise counselor, and steadfast friend is gone, but the memory of his consecrated life will long be cherished as an incentive and a benediction.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1682 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, September, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-One*

Retired: June 1929 (Fac. Rec. p. 1594, 1682)

# John Lewis Morris

Sibley Professor of Practical Mechanics and Machine Construction

— *November 19, 1905*

“The Faculty of Cornell University desire to express their sorrow at the death of their colleague John Lewis Morris, to record their appreciation of his services to the University, and to extend their sympathy to his family.

At the time of his death, Professor John Lewis Morris had been a member of the Faculty of Cornell University for thirty-seven years, of which thirty-five were spent in active service. His labors began with the opening of the University in 1868, and he had the rare privilege, with his associates in the original Faculty, of shaping in a peculiar manner the destiny of the University. His loyalty and enthusiasm in hours of depression, his frankness of criticism, the resourcefulness of his varied experience, and the transparent sincerity of his character, were weighty factors in the early history of the University.

He lived to see the firm establishment and extraordinary development of the department which he founded and fostered through many years of discouragement, and to win the grateful affection of a host of students, to whom he was an unselfish friend and constant benefactor

The Faculty mourns the loss of an efficient colleague, a helpful friend, and an upright, useful citizen.

*Resolved*, That a copy of this expression of esteem and regret be entered upon the records of the University Faculty and transmitted to the family.

January 5th, 1906

*T. F. Crane, J. Law, A. W. Smith, J. M. Hart*

*Source: Records, p. 325, January 5, 1906*

# Edward Leamington Nichols

Professor of Physics; Head of the Physics Department

*September 14, 1854 — Nov. 10, 1937*

Born of American parents in Leamington, England, on September 14, 1854, Edward Leamington Nichols matriculated as a student at Cornell at the opening of the sixth year of instruction at the University. After receiving the B.S. degree from Cornell in 1875, he studied successively at the Universities of Leipzig, Berlin, and Göttingen, from the last of which he received the doctorate in physics in 1879, a degree that was re-awarded to him by that institution fifty years later. Returning to this country he sought advice from his alma mater in regard to getting a position. It was a period of depression after the panic of '73 and there were few openings. Aided by a letter from President White he secured appointment to a fellowship at Johns Hopkins University. The following year he spent with Edison in his laboratory at Menlo Park. After serving for two years as professor of physics and chemistry at Central University in Kentucky and for four years as professor of physics and astronomy in the University of Kansas, he returned to Cornell in 1887 where he remained head of the department of physics until his retirement from active teaching in 1919. He died in West Palm Beach, Florida, on November 10, 1937.

Professor Nichols attained a place of high scientific distinction. His extensive publications embraced almost every branch of the physics of his day and in several important fields such as illumination, physiological optics, and luminescence, he was recognized as a pioneer. In recognition of his pioneer work he was awarded the Ives Medal of the Optical Society, the Elliott Cresson Medal of the Franklin Institute, and the Rumford Medal of the American Academy, and was made an honorary member of the Optical Society of America and of the Illuminating Engineering Society,

With the firm conviction that the advancement of knowledge through research was an important if not the prime function of a University, Nichols exerted a widespread influence in quickening the spirit of scientific inquiry and investigation as a pattern for university as well as individual development. When he entered upon his scientific career the contributions from this country to the advancement of the physical sciences were comparatively insignificant. In only a few universities was research actually under way or even regarded as a proper function for a college teacher. The possibilities of industrial research laboratories in physics had not then been recognized. Nichols contributed more than any other physicist of his generation to change this situation and he was almost the last remaining member of that small group of men who kept physics alive in this country during the last two decades of the last century and prepared the way for the remarkable progress of the last twenty years. His

enthusiasm and untiring activity as a scientific investigator served as an inspiration to others. As president of the American Physical Society, of Sigma Xi, and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he kept continually before the public the importance of scientific work. He was one of the most active of the small group who organized the American Physical Society in 1899. *The Physical Review*, founded by Nichols in 1893 and conducted for the first twenty years under his editorship, was the first journal of physics in this country and was an important factor in stimulating scientific activity in that field.

As a member of the Cornell faculty, Nichols's influence was always in the direction of liberality of opportunity. He looked forward not backward. While he shared with his colleagues the glory that came to Cornell for more than one daring experiment in education, yet he was ever ready to recognize the fettering influence of tradition against which he continually and effectively raised his voice in protest, for to him the shackles of tradition signified narrowness, apathy, and sterility. A brief quotation from a dinner speech that he made during the Semi-Centennial celebration will serve to remind us of how he conceived a university should ever struggle for development. "My dream is of a Cornell that shall be the first to break away into the glorious freedom that surrounds us; into the glad Bohemia at our very doors—fit for the times in which we live." Essentially a radical in his educational ideals, he nevertheless recognized the importance of advancing no faster than the change could be assimilated by those most affected. He disliked the routine of administrative duties and gladly left them for others to assume. As Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for two years, he advocated and initiated numerous educational policies of a progressive character. His wise and unprejudiced approach to the general educational problems of the University made him a most valued and trusted member of the faculty.

To those who had the good fortune to be among his students or associated with him as a colleague, his never-failing and sympathetic interest in any scientific problem brought inspiration and encouragement. His quiet dignity, his unaffected simplicity, his interest in and love of all knowledge was irresistibly infectious. Endowed with a rare combination of curiosity, creative imagination, and good judgment, he developed at Cornell a center of research in experimental physics that quickly brought the department to a position of leadership in this country. Similar developments elsewhere were stimulated by his example. More and more students found it unnecessary to go abroad for graduate study in physics. Many other departments of physics and not a few industrial laboratories owe their original development to the pioneer efforts of physicists trained by him.

Nichol's scientific activity did not cease or diminish when he retired. On the contrary the vigor and interest with which he continued his researches for considerably more than a decade beyond his retirement revealed anew

his unquenchable thirst for conquest in the realm of science. This distinguished scientist, respected teacher, and beloved colleague has passed on; but his influence will remain and the memory of what his life and work has meant to Cornell we shall ever cherish as a rich heritage.

*Source: Fac. Rec, p. 2042 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, April, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-Eight.*

Retired: June 1919 (Fac. Rec. p. 998)



# James Edward Oliver

Professor of Mathematics

— *March 27, 1895*

The Faculty of Cornell University, desiring to show their appreciation of the character and services of their late colleague, Professor Oliver, have directed that the following expression of their sorrow and sympathy be incorporated in their records, and be communicated to the family of their departed associate.

In the death of James Edward Oliver this Faculty mourn the loss of a colleague endeared to them through many years of intimate association, by his warm friendliness, his frank and gentle nature, his patient conscientiousness, and his steadfast adherence to high standards of thought and conduct.

In him the body of students have lost a faithful and inspiring teacher, and a devoted friend and the cause of education is deprived of a liberal and earnest advocate, and a thinker original and profound.

His memory will always be cherished as one who long bore a prominent part in the development of the University, and contributed greatly in matters of scholarship and administration to its progress and success.

*Source: Faculty Records D, p. 180. General Legislation of the Faculty and Extracts from the Faculty Records - page 42, April 19, 1895—June 18, 1895*

# William Ridgely Orndorff

Professor of Organic Chemistry

1862 — Nov. 1, 1927

Through the death of William Ridgely Orndorff, Cornell University and the scientific world have lost an able and inspiring teacher and an eminent investigator,

Born in Baltimore in 1862, he attended Baltimore City College, and in 1887 received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Johns Hopkins University, where he had held the position of personal assistant to Professor Remsen.

He came to Cornell in 1887 as instructor in organic chemistry, was advanced in 1890 to an assistant professorship of organic chemistry, and to the professorship of organic and physiological chemistry in 1901, his title being changed to professor of organic chemistry in 1923.

Professor Orndorff was the author of a Laboratory Manual of Organic Chemistry, and he translated Salkowski's *Laboratory Manual of Physiological and Pathological Chemistry*. He was also the coauthor, with Professor Remsen, of one of the leading text-books on organic chemistry. He was a member of the International Jury of Awards, Paris Exposition, 1889, the St. Louis Exposition, 1904, the Panama Pacific Exposition at San Francisco, 1915, and was a special agent, U. S. Census, 1890. He was a member of a number of scientific and honorary societies. The organization of the Summer School of the University (now termed the Summer Session), and also of the Town and Gown Club of Ithaca, were largely due to Professor Orndorff's initiative.

The lectures of Professor Orndorff were unusually clear, logical and comprehensive, and displayed a wealth of information concerning all branches of chemistry as well as of sciences other than his own.

His published investigations comprise seventy-four articles, each of which embodies the results of very thorough and accurate experimental work. He was a steadfast supporter of sound scholarship and was severely critical of superficial or inconclusive experimentation.

His influence upon many generations of students, both graduate and undergraduate, was profound, and he inspired them with much of his own enthusiasm and devotion for the science. This is attested by the high standard which his former students have continued to maintain in their later work.

Both to his colleagues in the Department of Chemistry, and to those working in other scientific fields, who came to him for advice and assistance, Professor Orndorff was always ready to give freely of his time and of his abundant store of information and experience. The willingness of one so fully occupied with his own important work to be of help to others aroused among his colleagues a feeling of most sincere and grateful appreciation,

One of his outstanding traits was his loyalty: loyalty to the Department of Chemistry and to the University which he served unselfishly and without thought of public acclaim, loyalty to his family, to his colleagues and to his friends. By all who knew him his passing is sincerely mourned.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1526 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University December, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Seven*

## Samuel Peter Orth

Goldwin Smith Professor of Political Science

1873 — Feb. 26, 1922

Samuel Peter Orth in a few short years won for himself as Goldwin Smith Professor of Political Science no mean place in the life of Cornell University. Coming to us in the maturity of his powers after varied experience in law, in public office, and in teaching, enriched by contact with problems political and social at home and abroad, he had been trained by affairs no less than by books. For a decade he gave without stint to his classes here the ripe fruit of his experience, inspiring them by precept and example to recognize the peremptory claims of citizenship in a democracy. His gift of epigram, his zest for telling speech, the incisive vigor of his written word, were evidence of convictions carefully formed and firmly held. Wise in the ways of men and of nations, tolerant with a sympathy never sentimental and never veiling his impatience of shams, he believed profoundly in the wisdom of enthusiasm and the efficacy of effort. First and last he was an active citizen striving to broaden and deepen the civic life that he shared with all his neighbors. The University and the entire community have been the richer by his life and are the poorer for his untimely death.

*Source: Fac. Rec. P. 1278 Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University April, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-Two*

## John George Pertsch Jr.

1887 — August 23, 1928

Professor of Electrical Engineering

On 23 August 1928, Professor Pertsch saved from drowning a person struggling in the rough waters of Cayuga Lake. The effort proved too much for his strength, and he met his own death in a deed that was of a piece with his kindly, generous life.

John George Pertsch Jr. was born in Baltimore in 1887. He received from Cornell University in 1909 the degree of Mechanical Engineer. On graduating he was made an assistant in his college, and by successive promotions came to a professorship of Electrical Engineering. His whole academic life was spent in Cornell. He was a contributor to the journals of his profession and was a member of many learned societies.

In recording his death the Faculty wishes to bear witness to the fine qualities that made Professor Pertsch a valued and well-loved colleague. His students found him an admirably informed and wholly sympathetic teacher; few indeed of the teaching staff aroused a deeper response. His associates recognized in him a constant kindness and fair-mindedness, a straightforward manliness, a thoroughness in dealing with his subject, a steady industry, that well explained his popularity. In his death the University loses a teacher and scholar difficult to replace, and very many members of the faculty lose a true friend.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1559 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University November, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Eight*

# Albert Charles Phelps

World War Memorial Professor of Architecture

*April 8, 1873 — July 4, 1937*

On July fourth of the present year, Cornell University lost by the death of Albert Charles Phelps a great student and an outstanding teacher. He gave thirty-eight years of his life to this Institution with little if any thought to his own advancement or personal fame. During all of these years he was a teacher of the History of Architecture.

With each succeeding year he grew in wisdom and that kindly tolerance for a differing point of view—a differing point of view based upon accurate study and honest conviction. Of careless thinking or of pseudo-scholarship he was a biting critic. He had a passion for accuracy and for honesty. He set for himself a high standard, scorning all sophistry or compromise. In his mind the end never justified the means, and at any such suggestion he would flash into sudden anger. His mind was quick to penetrate to the gist of the question. His intimate colleagues all remember that low chuckle engendered by the implications unintendedly inherent in a remark of some fellow faculty member.

He was a modest man, a very quiet man who probably never realized the extent to which his influence moulded and gave direction to the growth of the College of which he was a member. He joined that faculty at a time when professional education was to too large an extent vocational training. He gave to that College thirty-eight years of unwavering devotion to the ideals of high scholastic attainment and honesty of thinking. In his mind the aims of professional education and of broad scholarship, were identical.

Looking back at the earlier years of his long service one may dimly appreciate the steadfast and unswerving patience, the self-forgetting patience of the man who set himself an ideal none too well understood in those beginning years of his work at Cornell.

His was a mind too big to be confined within the artificial boundaries of an administration division and with each added year, his influence reached out beyond his own College walls.

The last month of his life set in relief as none others had, his self-forgetting patience and integrity. He then knew that his future was but a succession of days of increasing pain. This future he never mentioned to his friends in tone of complaint, but only as it was necessary in his mind for the discharge of some duty or the finishing of some uncompleted task.

Albert Charles Phelps was born in Lockport, Illinois on the eighth of April, 1873. He graduated from the University of Illinois with the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1894. Later in the year of 1897 he studied at the Bavarian Technical School in Munich. He travelled and studied in Europe in 1902 and in 1903 received the degree of Master of Architecture from his Alma Mater. In 1898 he received his architectural licence from the State of Illinois.

He came to Cornell in 1898 as an instructor, being made an assistant professor in 1903, and full professor in 1913. In 1910 he was appointed World War Memorial Professor of Architecture. In 1901 he joined the American Institute of Architects and in 1930, in recognition of his contribution to the profession, he was made a Fellow of the Institute.

He was the director of architectural tours abroad, first for the Institute of International Education of the Carnegie Foundation and later for the Bureau of University Travel, spending many of his summers in this work. He was an occasional lecturer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and contributor to various professional publications.

This brief schedule of the events of his professional life is the one his own modesty wrote. He did not care for public display or for public honors. He gave himself so wholeheartedly to the task of the teacher in all its minute details that little of the vast knowledge which he amassed found its way into print.

His codified notes, which he left to his College are a vast mine of information to which he was ever adding. They are the evidence of what he did to fit himself to be the better teacher, but invaluable as they may prove, they cannot transcend the value of the continuing influence of the memory of his ideals.

No written testimonial can be a lasting memorial of any man but those intangibles which Albert Charles Phelps left behind will endure.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 2001 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, November, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Seven*

# Arthur Ranum

Professor of Mathematics

— *Feb. 28, 1934*

Professor Arthur Ranum was first at Cornell University in 1893-96 as graduate student, Scholar, and Fellow. After receiving his doctor's degree from the University of Chicago, and teaching in western universities, he returned to Cornell in 1906. Here he remained, leading a quiet life as investigator and teacher.

As a productive scholar he won the highest respect of his colleagues and the mathematical public, especially through his mastery of two fields. His earlier publications dealt with Modern Algebra, and were full of new and interesting results. During the past twenty-five years, however, he wrote mainly on Differential Geometry. He devoted special attention to three topics: the differential geometry of hyperspace; the singularities of space curves; and quasi-spherical curves. His papers contain practically all that is known about the last-named subject. Apart from their originality and rigor, his writings are remarkable for their style and elegance. The subject matter is presented as a complete and harmonious whole; the procedure is strikingly simple and direct; laborious proofs are avoided; and the reader is left with an impression of the richness and beauty of the total conception. The effect is due partly to Professor Ranum's care in thinking through his subject, and partly to his rare genius for presentation.

These talents and his accurate scholarship made him an able teacher. He had a remarkable gift for making the most recondite ideas understandable and attractive. His students gave enthusiastic testimony to the lucidity of his lectures and the pleasure and ease of following them.

The love of harmony so evident in his mathematical research had a counterpart on the emotional side in a passion for music. Though not a skilled performer himself, he was intimately acquainted with the great masterpieces of musical composition, and over-looked no opportunity of hearing them.

In manner he was quiet and self-effacing. He had a considerable element of stoicism in his nature; although handicapped in his later years by ill health, he paid as little attention as possible to his physical disabilities. In his last months, when he was more seriously ill than his most intimate friends suspected, he kept to his work as long as his strength held out, attending to his university duties until within a few days of the end.

By his death Cornell University and mathematical science lose a scholar recognized at home and abroad as a distinguished worker in his field.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1838 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, April, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Four*



# Hugh Daniel Reed

Professor of Zoology

*March 4, 1875 — August 23, 1937*

Hugh Daniel Reed was born at Hartsville, New York, March 4, 1875. He entered Cornell University in the fall of 1895 and was graduated in 1899 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Appointed a Fellow in Vertebrate Zoology, he pursued graduate study for four years and in 1903 was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

From 1900 to 1910, Professor Reed served successively as Assistant, Instructor, and Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurology and Vertebrate Zoology under Dr. Burt G. Wilder, the Professor in charge. Granted leave of absence, he spent the year 1909-1910 at the University of Freiburg, Germany, working under the direction of the eminent zoologist, August Weismann, and the equally eminent comparative anatomists, Robert Wiedersheim and Ernst Gaupp. During his year abroad Dr. Reed also represented Cornell at the International Zoological Congress at the University of Graz, Austria.

Professor Wilder retired in June, 1910, and Assistant Professor Reed was selected as head of the Department. He at once entered upon the task of organizing a Department of Zoology, offering for the first time at Cornell a unified, systematic, and complete course in zoology. In 1919 he was made Professor of Zoology.

Despite the exacting demands of reorganization and administration, Dr. Reed found time to keep in touch with advances in his field and to contribute thereto. His first scientific paper was published in 1908, and the field of re-research to which he then gave his primary attention continued to hold his interest throughout the succeeding years. At the same time he was able to devote time and study to other scientific problems.

In the death of Professor Reed, Cornell University lost an administrator of marked ability and an inspiring and effective teacher. Within his department, Dr. Reed was a constant source of inspiration and advice. Those who were associated with him most intimately will not soon forget the debt they owe him as a counselor and they will also remember the emphasis which he placed on teaching in his appraisal of obligations to the institution which he served.

As an indication of the esteem in which he was held by his graduate students, we need only recall their presentation of his portrait to the University in 1934. His many personal friends will deeply regret the loss of a man in whom personal charm, wide culture, and a balanced judgment were combined to an unusual degree. Friends and colleagues alike mourn his passing, and the affectionate memory of his many sterling qualities will be colored by

deep admiration for the sturdy valor with which he carried on, cheerfully despite serious and long continued ill health.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 2007 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, November, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Seven*

## **Ernest William Rettger**

*April 6, 1871 — October 9, 1938*

In the death of Ernest William Rettger on October 9, 1938, Cornell University lost a member of its staff who had given the College of Engineering most distinguished service for over thirty years. After obtaining his A.B. degree from Indiana University and the degree of doctor of philosophy from Clark University, Professor Rettger taught at Warrensburg State Normal School and at Princeton and Stanford Universities before coming to Cornell in 1906. Here he held successively the positions of honorary fellow in Structural Mechanics, instructor in Civil Engineering, and assistant professor and professor of Applied Mechanics.

Professor Rettger's remarkable ability in using higher mathematics in the fields of applied mechanics and hydraulics made his services invaluable to the School of Civil Engineering and to a large group of engineers who sought his aid in the solution of many complicated technical problems.

He was a very modest man who had little or no appreciation of his great influence upon his associates. He hated sham in all its forms. He was the personification of honesty and all that was honorable. He was an indefatigable worker and a confirmed progressive. He was prodigal in his expenditure of time and energy for the benefit of the University, his fellow members of the staff, and his students. He enriched the University community by countless acts of kindness, and enhanced the reputation of the University by his masterly teaching and by his many contributions to knowledge in his chosen field.

He was especially interested in graduate work, and devoted much time in recent years to the guidance of graduate students. Foreign students in particular came to look upon him as their most sympathetic friend and adviser.

He will be sorely missed because of his value as a friend, his deep scholarship, his tolerance and humor, his sage advice, and his spirit of helpfulness. We are grateful for the privilege of having known him and shall always cherish the many happy memories of our long years of association with him.

# Floyd Karker Richtmyer

*October 12, 1881 — November 7, 1939*

Floyd Karker Richtmyer was born on October 12, 1881, in Cobleskill, New York, of a family settled in that region since colonial times. He received the A.B. degree from Cornell University in 1904 and after two years as instructor in Physics at Drexel Institute he returned to Cornell for graduate work, which led to the doctor's degree in 1910. He served as assistant in Physics during his senior year and was appointed instructor in Physics in 1906, assistant professor in 1911, professor in 1918, and dean of the Graduate School in 1931.

During the thirty-three years between his return to Cornell and his untimely death on November 7, 1939, his services to the university as teacher, investigator, and administrator were such as it is the lot of few men to give. Throughout the period he was giving prodigally of his time and effort to scientific and educational projects outside the university. The numerous positions which he filled do not adequately indicate the magnitude of the labors which he performed. He undertook each new task with an optimistic enthusiasm which persisted in spite of difficulties, and he gave to each the same careful attention as though it were his principal interest. As a result, his success in administrative positions brought upon him ever more demands. Four national societies, each of which he served in many capacities, honored him with the presidency, the Optical Society of America in 1920, the Society of the Sigma Xi in 1924, the American Physical Society in 1936, and the American Association of Physics Teachers in 1937. Similar services extending over many years culminated in his appointment as chairman of the division of physical sciences of the National Research Council in 1930, vice-president of Section B of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1930, vice-president of the American Association of University Professors in 1932, and secretary of the Association of American Universities in 1938. Active in the founding of the American Institute of Physics, he was a member of its governing board from its foundation and a member of its executive committee after 1934.

He was associated with the editorial staff of the *Journal of the Optical Society of America* from 1917 until his death and was editor-in-chief of that journal after 1933; he was largely responsible for the establishment of the "Review of Scientific Instruments," first as a part of that journal and later as an independent periodical; he was its editor from 1933 to 1939. From 1929 until his death he was consulting editor of the International Series in Physics. During that period thirty volumes of the series were published. In 1928 he published his *Introduction to Modern Physics*, which has been widely used as a textbook. At the time of his death he was preparing the third edition of this work.

In the classroom he was an inspiring teacher; outside he was the student's warmhearted friend and counselor. He won the affection and enduring loyalty of many a Cornell student by the help he freely gave in any kind of difficulty. He was particularly interested in foreign-born students and he made use of his nation-wide influence to assist them. No one of his many activities was closer to his heart than the International Association of Ithaca, of which he was the president for several years.

Professor Richtmyer's career as an investigator began when he was an undergraduate. Scientific research and its application to human needs became the dominant interest of his life. As a graduate student he published four notable papers on the photoelectric effect. Thereafter he devoted himself for several years to the fields of photometry, physiological optics, and illumination. In 1919 he began the series of investigations on x-rays which has given him an outstanding reputation, but his interest in optics continued. He studied the intensity of the solar corona during the eclipse of 1932 and was in charge of the polarization measurements of the solar eclipse expedition to Canton Island in 1937.

His classic work on the absorption of x-rays, a long series of precise measurements, led to the establishment of the law of variation of absorption with the frequency and with the type of absorbing material. It also furnished important evidence against the existence of the controversial "J" radiation. In 1926 he turned his attention to x-ray emission spectra and suggested an explanation for the existence of the x-ray satellite lines which was the basis of his subsequent experimental research. This work shares honors with the absorption work in perpetuating his memory in the x-ray field. When in 1935 it became evident that his original suggestion would not adequately account for the observed facts, Professor Richtmyer was among the first to recognize the limitation and he immediately directed the program of x-ray research at Cornell toward the broader aspects of the problem.

He contributed more than one hundred and fifty papers and abstracts to scientific periodical literature and gave uncounted addresses of which no abstract was published. He was awarded the Levy Medal of the Franklin Institute in 1929 for his work on x-ray satellite lines. He was elected to membership in the National Academy of Science in 1932, and in 1935 to the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. From one point of view it is unfortunate that a man of superlative capabilities for research should be drawn out of the laboratory by administrative duties. From a broader point of view, one that recognizes the far-reaching benefits to research that have come and will continue to come from his extraordinary administrative talents, his many activities were to the end an expression of his devotion to scientific research.

Despite these numerous labors and honors, it is as dean of the Graduate School, the genuine friend at the head, that most of us remember and cherish Floyd Richtmyer. As we look back over the years of his studies and progress and successes, it seems as if the direction of the Graduate School was his destiny. Thorough as a student, gifted as a teacher, enthusiastic and resourceful as an investigator, he proceeded to the deanship as to a natural no less than a deserved promotion; and his nine years in that office gave promise of an even longer period of devoted and zealous leadership. His administration from the beginning was marked by an ever increasing efficiency, to which the General Committee and the Faculty alike have borne steady testimony. No part of the diversified range of graduate studies, whether in the sciences or the humanities, went without his sympathetic understanding, his active interest, his helpful advice, his guiding hand. Here his own soundness of judgment and his insistence on the maintenance of standards was coupled with the spirit of tolerance, good nature, tact, and discretion which distinguished him as a leader. No call on his time and energy went unheeded; he was ever attentive to the incidental tasks of the office, the meeting of visitors, conferences, chairmanship of committees, as well as to the routine duties. All this is a record to be proud of; and we who have been associated with him on the Cornell campus are indeed proud that we have known and have had some share in the life and labors of Dean Richtmyer.

## Isaac Phillips Roberts

First Director of the College of Agriculture and Professor of Agriculture

*July 24, 1833 — March 17, 1928*

Isaac Phillips Roberts was born at East Varick, New York, July 24, 1833. He became Professor of Agriculture in Cornell University in 1873. Was made first Director of the College of Agriculture in 1896 and retired Professor Emeritus in 1903. He died at San Francisco, California, March 17, 1928.

For thirty years Isaac Phillips Roberts was the exemplification of Agriculture in Cornell University. He taught the subject wisely, managed the farms successfully, directed the students in their many activities with sympathy and good judgment, bore the difficulties of a pioneer period with courage and unfailing hopefulness, and was a trusted counselor and leader with his colleagues. He was admired and trusted by the farming people of the State, and became an acknowledged master throughout the country of the subjects associated with agricultural education. In the period when the rural subjects were unorganized pedagogically and when the way was not plain, he planned the work clearly and definitely for agriculture and had always in mind the welfare of the farming people; and in so doing he made a basic and enduring contribution. He lived to see his faith justified and established. His memory will occupy a large place in the history of the University.

For these reasons and for all the associations that cluster around such an upright and devoted life, the members of the Board of Trustees and of the University Faculty now place on record this expression of their profound regret at Professor Roberts' death and extend to his family and friends their heartfelt sympathy.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1544 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University May, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Eight*

# John Rogers

*February 19, 1866 — November 19, 1939*

Dr. John Rogers was identified with the Cornell University Medical College from its beginning in 1898 until his death on November 19, 1939. He was born in New York City on February 19, 1866, the son of John and Harriet Moore Rogers. His father was the noted John Rogers, sculptor of the story-telling “groups,” of which the replicas ornamented so many American homes of the Victorian era.

Dr. Rogers graduated from Yale College with an A.B. in the class of 1887 and immediately, with a rather unusual appreciation of the value of fundamental training, returned to Yale and entered the Sheffield Scientific School for work in the sciences essential to the study of medicine. He earned the Ph.B. degree in 1888. During that year, under Chittenden and Smith, he developed that interest in the scientific side of medicine which characterized his work throughout his life.

At Yale he was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity and of Skull and Bones. He was captain of his class crew and chairman of the junior promenade committee. In his senior year he was captain of the varsity crew, and he was crew coach for three years following his graduation. Those activities of his undergraduate years gave evidence of characteristics which distinguished his whole life—broad interests and qualities of leadership—thus early appreciated by his fellows.

Dr. Rogers took his medical degree at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1891 and then served as intern in the New York Hospital. He married Elizabeth S. White of New Haven, Connecticut, on November 27, 1895. She survives him, with two of their three children.

As was the custom of ambitious young medical men at that time, Dr. Rogers opened an office. He taught as a demonstrator of Anatomy at Yale, and he worked in the dispensaries and clinics of the city hospitals of New York. From the beginning his professional interests were based upon human interests; at Gouverneur Hospital the suffering of numbers of children from the effects of intubation after diphtheria moved him to a deep interest in the surgery of the larynx. His interest in the thyroid grew out of his concern for his own wife during a protracted illness. His later interest in epilepsy was derived from the care of one of his relatives.

Nor were his efforts limited to an interest in the physical ills of his patients. A kindly humanitarianism was shown in his constant successful effort to obtain money from his wealthier patients to aid the unfortunates whom he



was treating professionally in the public dispensaries. He did this long before the foundation of the hospital of the Salvation Army—the Booth Memorial Hospital—with which he was intimately connected from the day of its foundation to the day of his death.

Dr. Rogers was visiting surgeon to Gouverneur Hospital (1896-1909), surgeon to St. Francis Hospital (1902-1921), and visiting surgeon to Bellevue Hospital (1909-1921). He was a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the New York Academy of Medicine and of the New York Surgical Society. He belonged to the University Club and the Boone and Crockett Club.

His connection with the Medical College of Cornell University was a threefold one, as teacher, as administrator, and as one actively engaged in research. With the founding of the college in 1898 Dr. Rogers became identified with the faculty, first as an instructor in Surgery and assistant demonstrator in Anatomy, then as an instructor in Clinical Surgery, as professor of Clinical Surgery after 1909, and as professor emeritus after 1926. He was secretary of the faculty from 1898 to 1908, during a period when the duties of that office included admissions to the school.

Dr. Rogers's interest in the thyroid gland led to some of the earliest work on the function of that organ and to the development first of a serum and then of extracts of the gland which have ever since been standard extracts for the treatment of thyroid disease. For nearly thirty-five years, with funds independently raised, he supported laboratory work in the Medical College along the various lines in which he was interested, chiefly the study of the thyroid.

In this day, when extracts of about every organ of the body are being used, it is difficult to realize the obstacles which had to be overcome by Dr. Rogers and other workers of that day. Fortunately for us, the field chosen was that of the thyroid gland, where substitution therapy gave clear-cut and definite response. To overcome the ridicule of one's fellows in the profession, to work out methods for the extraction and utilization of active principles, to see those products come into general use, to live to see one's work so firmly established that the early days of trial are completely forgotten—that is a gratifying experience granted to but few. The Cornell University Medical College ought to remember that this achievement of establishing the basis of modern organotherapy was in no small measure due to the imagination and the pertinacity of Dr. John Rogers.

From all these varied activities there stands out the man himself. Of tall, commanding presence, a natural leader, the man's most memorable characteristic is his kindness, whether as surgeon or teacher or administrator. If the story of his life could be told with all the human interest that informed his father's sculptures, for an example to

young persons who would study medicine, it would serve admirably to show that before one can become a great surgeon one must be a great physician and before that a great man.

# Willard Winfield Rowlee

Professor of Botany

*1861 — August 8, 1923*

The Board of Trustees and the University Faculty deplore the loss of Professor Willard Winfield Rowlee, who died, after a protracted illness, August 8, 1923. Professor Rowlee was graduated from Cornell University in 1888. For thirty-four years he gave his Alma Mater continuous, loyal service and was summoned just as he was taking up special research of a character for which he was eminently fitted,

On graduation he was appointed an assistant in botany and entered the Graduate School. In 1893, he received the degree of Doctor of Science. Beginning as an assistant in botany in the College of Arts and Sciences he advanced to the headship of that department.

Professor Rowlee was a painstaking teacher, a wise counselor and a careful investigator. He made many valuable contributions to the technical journals of botany, particularly through articles in the field of dendrology. He was keenly interested in the geography and ecology of the plants of Central New York. From his work with Willows, Professor Rowlee was generally regarded as an authority on that botanical family. In his later years his revision of the genus *Ochroma* served as the basis for his studies on the utility of Balsa. He also revised the genus *Costus* in Central America and investigated other tropical plants. It was ever his desire to seek the practical application of the results of scientific investigation.

Professor Rowlee served the University in a variety of ways. For many years he had supervision of the grounds and the planting on the campus. He was interested in athletics and devoted much time to the development of the playground and also of Schoellkopf Field and was faculty advisor for football. He served most acceptably on the Committee on Student Affairs and for several years was its chairman. He was long secretary of the Associate Alumni Association, was active in the organization of the Association of Class Secretaries, and was a most efficient Secretary of his Class. He was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science a member of the American Society of Naturalists and of the Botanical Society of America. He had also been a member for many years of the Town and Gown Club of Ithaca.

Professor Rowlee was quiet and unassuming. He had the ability of impressing everyone with his personal sincerity and scientific accuracy. He was public spirited and interested in civic affairs. He was an alderman for four years and belonged to the Protective Police of the city. Few men have served the University for a longer period or in a

larger sphere of usefulness than did Professor Rowlee. In his death, the University has lost a friend of high ideals, a thorough and distinguished teacher, and a devoted and loyal supporter.

*Source: Fac. Rec, p. 1334 Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University October, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Three*

# Martin Wright Sampson

Professor of English

— *August 22, 1930*

The sudden death of Professor Martin Wright Sampson in the fullness of his powers is felt by the University and the community as an irreparable loss.

Professor Sampson joined this Faculty in 1908 and was made Goldwin Smith Professor of English in 1912. After his early training under Professor James Morgan Hart, whose sound tradition he was later to maintain and amplify, he had prepared himself for a life of devotion to letters and learning by study in European centers. He came to Cornell with the ripe experience gained by service in three American universities.

His broad scholarship, his intellectual keenness, his delicate sensitiveness to all that is fine in literature and art, combined with his rare power of awakening interest and insight in others, are attested by the number of his former students who have made themselves names as writers or scholars and by those who, in other fields, have preserved the love of literature which they acquired in his classroom.

His readings and lectures for students in architecture and engineering were eagerly attended. His open-minded fairness, his patience and courtesy, his helpfulness to all who sought his aid or counsel, were unflinching.

He administered his department as a republic. He found time to render service on many Faculty committees. As chairman of the Committee on War Alumnus Certificates and as editor of the Military Records of Cornell Alumni in the World War, he made invaluable contributions to the records of the University. He promoted intelligent appreciation of the arts by the foundation of the Sampson Fine Arts Prize, and consistently advocated full recognition of their cultural value.

The esteem in which he was held by the Alumni caused him to be frequently invited to speak at their gatherings, and made him a bond between the University and its former students. His genuine comradeship, his broad humanity, and his interest in all civic affairs made him, in equal measure, a bond between the University and the community.

As a teacher, he brought to the interpretation of his favorite subjects, poetry and the drama, an understanding and sympathy possible only to one himself a poet. His editions of Milton and Webster are lasting memorials of his scholarship and his critical power. His own writings showed the grace, charm, and humor characteristic of the man. It is due to his innate modesty that most of these were known mainly to his close friends and to the young

men whose aspirations he was encouraging through the Manuscript Club, which he founded and of which he was the guiding spirit.

But those who knew and loved him will think foremost of all of his generous and winning personality, of his buoyant spirit, and of the inspiration to high intellectual achievement and fine character which by his own life he daily offered.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1647 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, December, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty*

# Nathaniel Schmidt

*May 22, 1862 — June 29, 1939*

Nathaniel Schmidt was born in Hudiksvall, Sweden, on May 22, 1862. In 1884, after spending two years at the University of Stockholm, he came to the United States and until 1887 he was a student at Colgate (then Madison) University. After a further year of study at the University of Berlin, he was appointed professor of Semitic Languages and Literatures at Colgate. In 1896 he was called to the chair of Semitic Languages and Literatures and of Oriental History in Cornell University and, save for two years (1904-5) when he was director of the American School of Archeology in Jerusalem, he taught continuously here until his retirement with the rank of professor emeritus in 1932. Successive generations of students who attended his classes in the Literature of the Old Testament or his survey courses on the History of Asia and of Africa have borne witness to his learning, his great gifts as a teacher, and his integrity as a man and a scholar. Throughout his life, from his first book, *An Introduction to the Hexateuch*, published in 1896, to his last, *The Coming Religion*, which appeared in 1932, Professor Schmidt by his writings contributed constantly and with unflagging power to the advancement of scholarship. Besides a number of books, of which the most important were his *Prophet of Nazareth*, which reached a second edition in 1907, and his study of the Arabian historian, Ibn Khaldun, issued in 1930, he was the author of numerous contributions to theological and oriental journals and composed some 1,500 articles in the *New International Encyclopaedia*. He served as head of the American School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, as president of the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis, and as trustee of the schools of Oriental Research in Jerusalem and Baghdad.

Endowed with a remarkable gift of languages and with a knowledge that was encyclopedic in its range, he was yet the most modest of men and unfailingly generous of time and counsel alike to his colleagues and to his students. He took an active and weighty part in the affairs of our academic life and of the many learned societies of which he was a valued member. To a wider public he was known for many years as a persuasive and eloquent speaker on the religious and social problems of our time and as a fearless advocate, unswayed by the pressure of vulgar opinion, of what he believed to be the truth. His many friends will deeply mourn the death of one whose life exemplified the words:

“Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.”

# Charles Chauncy Shackford

Professor of Rhetoric and General Literature

— *December 25, 1891*

RESOLVED, that the Faculty of Cornell University has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Charles Chauncy Shackford, a scholar, colleague, and gentleman, loved and respected by all who knew him. With his death this Faculty drops from its roll a name endeared to many of its present members during a long acquaintance, in which his ripe scholarship and his many virtues were fully appreciated by his numerous friends, colleagues, and pupils. His probity, ability, industry, affable character, and purity of life will be long remembered at this Institution, as one of the forces which helped to lay the foundations upon which this University has been built, and for the success of which he contributed a noble share with loyal devotion and untiring effort. This Faculty is pleased to see that the portrait of this distinguished man of letters presented by his students to the University realizes their expressed wishes, “that the presence of Professor Shackford in our Library among the worthies of Cornell should serve as an inspiration to the labors of succeeding generations of young men.”

RESOLVED, That we tender to the widow and surviving family of Professor Shackford our sincere sympathy.

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be spread on the book of records of this Faculty, given to the press for publication, and a copy of them attested by the Secretary of the Faculty be delivered to the family of our departed colleague.

*Source: Faculty Records D, p.41 General Legislation of the Faculty and Extracts from the Faculty Records -page 11, October 1st 1891—March 11th, 1892*



# John Sanford Shearer

Professor of Physics

1865 — May 17, 1922

In the death of John Sanford Shearer, Science in America has suffered a great loss.

He entered the university as an undergraduate with some previous experience as a teacher and with a decided taste for the study of physics and mathematics. He received the degree of B.S. in 1893 and of Ph.D. in 1901.

He was a member of the instructing staff from the time of graduation until his death on May 17, 1922 and during this long period of nearly twenty nine years he was continually in active service with the exception of the year 1910-11 when he was on leave of absence and acted as associate professor of Columbia University and of the war period (1917-19) when he was in war service. Skill and originality as a demonstrator combined with unusual mathematical ability characterized Professor Shearer's work as a teacher and in his capacity as one of the lecturers on experimental physics he exerted an inspiring influence upon many thousands of undergraduates

The installation of the department of physics in Rockefeller Hall afforded opportunities for the development of an eminently practical side of his character and he was largely responsible for the planning and successful operation of the liquid air plant and for many other important features in the equipment of the laboratory.

Later on Professor Shearer turned his attention particularly to the development of courses in X-rays for students of medicine and in connection with this work he acquired a knowledge which included with almost equal intimacy the theoretical, technical and therapeutic aspects of radiology. In this specialty he became an eminent authority and his advice was sought far and wide by physicists, instrument makers and physicians.

Upon the entrance of the United States into the world war Professor Shearer was called to the service of his country and was charged with the development and organization of the X-ray equipment of the army and with the training of its personnel for field and hospital duty at home and abroad. For his distinguished services in France he was three times decorated and received among other honors the *medaille d'honneur*. In 1919 he retired from the Sanitary Corps with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

There is reason to believe that Professor Shearer's early death was due to his exertions in war service and that he is to be counted among those who gave their lives for the country. In him the Trustees and Faculty have lost a valued colleague, the community a public spirited citizen and the sciences of Physics and Radiology a worker of eminence and renown.

*Source: Fac. Rec, p. 1290 Resolutions Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University June, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Two*

Instructor, Assistant Professor and Professor of Physics, 1893 — 1922

## Max Adams Shepard

*May 8, 1907 — June 28, 1939*

Max Adams Shepard, assistant professor of Government, was killed in an automobile accident on June 28, 1939. At the time of his death he was thirty-two years of age.

The son of distinguished parents, Max Shepard may well have derived his ability as a student of government from his father, Walter James Shepard, an outstanding political scientist who was for some years dean of the college of arts and sciences of the Ohio State University. After completing his undergraduate work at that university Professor Shepard entered the graduate school of Harvard University, where he received the degree of doctor of philosophy and remained to serve as fellow and tutor. Even at this early state he showed wide knowledge of his chosen subject, the theory of law and government, and unusual power as a critical thinker. He won general recognition as one of the best young scholars in his field upon the appearance of his first essays and articles; notably a study entitled *William Occam and the Higher Law*, and a discussion of the political and constitutional theory of Sir John Fortescue, which was printed among the *Essays in Honor of Charles Howard McIlwain*.

On coming to Cornell in 1935 Professor Shepard took up a full program of teaching in the department of Government, specializing in the exposition and criticism of the more recent theories of politics and law. He was a lively, provocative teacher, so successful in stimulating thought among his students that many a discussion begun in the classroom was continued in his office and even adjourned to the luncheon or supper table. On the campus Professor Shepard was rarely alone.

The fertility of suggestion and good humor which he carried into teaching also marked Professor Shepard's participation in committee work and discussion with his colleagues. By temperament he was an experimenter and liberal reformer in matters affecting educational method. Like his father he took keen interest in university administration. His help was a prime cause of the introduction and success of the co-operative seminar established in 1938 for students majoring in Government, Economics, Philosophy, and History. He had an active part in preparing the first syllabus for a general introductory course in the Social Studies.

No mere recital of achievements can convey the sense of loss which his students and colleagues have suffered. For them it is not so much that a career full of promise has been cut short as that a lively, warm-hearted friend has vanished.

# Henry Augustus Sill

— *August 13, 1917*

The Professor of Philosophy, Professor Thilly, introduced the following resolutions which were adopted by rising vote:

The University Faculty deeply deplores the loss of Professor Henry Augustus Sill, who, in mid-August, just before the completion of his summer lectures at Columbia University, was snatched from life by sudden illness. He had served the University with loyal zeal and marked ability, and he died in the prime of his manhood before the fulfillment of all the high hopes which his gifts of mind and rich scholarship had inspired.

At his coming to us, fifteen years ago, he identified himself promptly and fully with the life of the University. In the work of this body, as in all the Faculties in which he held membership, his interest was ardent and unflagging. Advancing their purposes by his facility in suggestion and never losing sight of the educational purpose to which their action was directed, he won the respect and admiration of us all by his honesty of purpose, his warmth of heart, his frankness and straight-forwardness, his good humor and generous temper. Although his regard for the opinions of his colleagues was great and he yearned to have their confidence and good-will, he did not fear to embrace the unpopular cause, and no one was ever left in doubt as to where he stood. He met every call for service willingly and enthusiastically, and performed with energy and loyal devotion every duty he undertook.

An inspiring class-room teacher, who brought the treasures of varied study and a full mind to the illustration of his theme, he was also, in the quiet of his office, a helpful counselor to many a perplexed student, who came to appreciate in no common measure the stimulus of his many-sided comment, often humorous but never frivolous, upon the concerns of scholarship and the larger problems of life.

A progressive by temper as by political conviction, he was actively concerned for the betterment of the University and the community, giving his time and energy without stint to all projects which might promote good scholarship or good citizenship. The University Club was largely his creation, the Arts Association his protege, the project for a Student Union eagerly furthered by him; and these are but a few of the activities which were always outrunning his time and his strength and crowding into the background his work as investigator, thinker, and writer, for which he seemed else so admirably fitted. Few among us could so ill be spared.

*Committee: Geo. L. Burr, Charles H. Hull, Frank Thilly, Chairman.*

*Source: Records, p. 919, October 10, 1917*

# Sutherland Simpson

Professor of Physiology

*February 3, 1863 — March 2, 1926*

In the death of Sutherland Simpson, Cornell University has lost one of its ablest teachers and most tireless research workers. Born on Flotta, one of the Orkney Islands, February 3, 1863, he spent his early years on his father's farm and on the sea. In 1884, at the age of twenty-one, he went to Edinburgh to work in the physiological laboratory under Professor Rutherford. During the fifteen years spent in this post he found time to complete his education, securing the degree of B.Sc. in 1894 and the degree of M. B. Ch. B. in 1899. In that year Sir. Edward Sharpey-Schaefer became Professor of Physiology at Edinburgh and under his stimulating leadership Sutherland Simpson entered upon his life work as a teacher and investigator in Physiology. He received the degree of Doctor of Medicine (Gold Medal) in 1901, and D.Sc. in 1903. Nine busy years passed in Edinburgh, years filled with conscientious teaching and productive research, which, in 1908, brought him the call to Cornell University as Professor of Physiology. This position he held until his death, devoting himself to the development of his subject, organizing, and equipping his department. Throughout these years he has given himself tirelessly to teaching, administration and research, acquitting himself with honor in each of these fields. In Cornell his research activity resulted in the production of fifty-six scientific studies of which the majority dealt with the glands of internal secretion. This work was greatly facilitated during the later years by the development of the Physiology Field-Station. Untiring devotion to research, although enthusiastically prosecuted, did not in any way interfere with his teaching duties. As a lecturer he was clear and forceful; but it was in the personal contacts of laboratory and demonstration that he particularly imparted much of his inspiration and enthusiasm.

Dr. Simpson was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and a member of the American and British Medical Associations, the American and British Associations for the Advancement of Science, the American and British Physiological Societies, and other special scientific bodies,

Possessing a genial personality, a sympathetic nature, a keen intellect, great energy, and high ideals of scientific work, he was as big of mind and heart as of body and his presence radiated good feeling and friendliness wherever he went. These qualities endeared him to his colleagues and students. His loss is keenly felt by all who knew him.

*Source: Fac. Rec. p. 1459 Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University May, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Six*

# Mark Vernon Slingerland

Assistant Professor of Economic Entomology

— *March 11, 1909*

On Wednesday, March 11, 1909, death removed from among us our respected friend and valued colleague, Mark Vernon Slingerland. His death is a serious loss to the world of natural science in which he was a conscientious and honored student, as well as to the Faculty of this University where his opinion and voice were respected, and a deep source of grief to a wide circle of friends in University and town.

He came to this community as a student in 1888, was graduated in 1892 and entered the instructing staff of the University in the same year. His progress thereafter was rapid, but also substantial. As a student, his career was marked by earnestness, courage and industry. As a teacher, he was direct and forceful. As an investigator, he was conscientious, unbiased, persevering and accurate. In his special field of economic entomology, his authority and leadership received unquestioned recognition. As a student of the life history and means of controlling insects which prey upon domestic animals and cultivated plants, his investigations embraced an exceptionably wide range. While the numerous monographs he prepared have been of incalculable benefit to those engaged in the field of plant and animal production, they remain also as enduring monuments to a life which, though lamentably short, yet overflowed with a special type of beneficent usefulness. His opinion, advice and judgment were valued alike by student and colleague. Those who knew him as a friend were privileged. They appreciated him as a man of character wedded to truth, unswerving in conviction, and consistent in maintaining his ideals. Though diffident in expressing opinions, his mind was of the eminently practical kind, which, discarding unimportant details, concentrates on the immediately essential. His memory is cherished as a man whose life, though short, stands as a notable example of one who gave his years unselfishly and devotedly to the discovery of useful truths in the realm of natural history in their relation to the economy of plant and animal life. Measured by years, his life was short ; measured by achievement he lived long. As a scientist we honor his memory; as a man and a colleague, we mourn his loss.

*J. H. Comstock, John Craig, W. W. Rowlee*

*Source: Records, p. 451, April 16, 1909.*

## 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.*

*Source: Records, p. 496, June 10, 1910.*

# John Robert Sitlington Sterrett

— June 15, 1914.

The Secretary on behalf of a committee appointed by the President (Hammond, chairman, Bennett, Bristol) reported the following resolutions on the death of Professor Sterrett, which were adopted by rising vote:

“At the close of the last College year Professor John Robert Sitlington Sterrett, head of the Department of Greek, passed from life in the hospital of the City of Ithaca. The Faculty of the University places on its records this memorial of its appreciation of the personality and services of the departed scholar.

For twenty-seven years he was professor of the Greek language and literature in various institutions of this country, nearly half of which time he spent at Cornell University. As a young scholar he traveled through Greece and Asia Minor and by his archaeological and epigraphical work, filling practically the whole of the first three volumes of the publications of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, he established a world-wide reputation. These earliest labors were in the field for which he had a peculiar aptitude. Down to the last days of his life he had an intense desire to return to the problems of Hellenic Archaeology, in which the achievements of his young manhood had won the approbation and applause of the chief scholars of Europe.

He was a valuable contributor to the education both of his colleagues in the Faculty and of his students in the class-room. To the former he was an exemplar of single hearted devotion to his work and the incarnation of the spirit of veracity. To the latter he imparted intimately the precious ideas and ideals of Greek civilization, which he so deeply loved and understood.

He was a man of very conservative views, of extremely rigorous, even stoical ideals of duty. He had a passion for the scholar's labor and the long exacting hours spent daily in his study in Goldwin Smith Hall were to him as the breath of life.

His last work was unfortunately left a torso,—his translation of Strabo's Geography and the reconstruction of the text. Most of it was done under the strain of ill health, but with unflagging industry.

His outward life imaged his inward character, a character marked by simplicity, transparent candor, and rugged dignity.”

*Source: Records, p. 645, October 14, 1914.*



# Charles Rupert Stockard

*February 27, 1879 — April 7, 1939*

With the passing of Dr. Stockard on April 7 of the current year Anatomy has lost an inspiring leader, and our medical college one of the oldest and most distinguished members of its active faculty.

Dr. Stockard was born in Washington County, Mississippi, on February 27, 1879. The son of a physician, he showed in his early youth great enthusiasm in the field of Zoology, attested by numerous observations on the nesting habits of birds and a collection of eggs which he fondly kept until his death. He entered the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College, receiving the degrees of bachelor of science in 1899 and master of science in 1901. During the Spanish-American War he was acting professor of Military Science at the above institution, and afterwards he held the same position in Jefferson Military College from 1901 to 1903.

In spite of this early experience, a military career had no appeal for young Stockard. His love of nature reasserted itself and he decided to become a zoologist, entering Columbia University, from which he received the Ph.D. degree in 1906. While at the Columbia department of Zoology he conducted investigations on various subjects, including Botany, and wrote articles on the natural history of the spoon-billed sturgeon—abundant in the lakes of the lower Mississippi area—and the nesting habits of birds in Mississippi. Under the direction of Professor Bashford Dean he studied the development of the thyroid, the lens of the eye, and the mouth and gills of the cyclostome fish *Bdellostoma stouti*. This early work on fish embryology determined the direction of subsequent studies; at the suggestion of Professor T. H. Morgan and following the trend initiated by the German experimental embryologists, particularly Herbst, Stockard undertook a series of important investigations on the influence of external factors on development, selecting the embryos of the minnow *Fundulus* as a favorable object. One of his first papers was on the development of *Fundulus* in solutions of lithium chloride, followed by a study of the artificial production of a single median cyclopean eye by means of sea water solutions of magnesium chloride, and later by an analysis of the influence of external factors, chemical and physical, on the development of the same fish. This work was carried out at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, where Dr. Stockard spent most of his summers and where his absence will be deeply felt.

Dr. Stockard joined Cornell Medical College in 1906 as assistant in Embryology and Histology, and in 1908 he became instructor in Comparative Morphology. His inquiring mind found a stimulus in the teachings of Professor James Ewing and led to work on tissue growth and regeneration—mostly in the jelly-fish *Cassiopea*—which he

carried out at the marine laboratory of the Carnegie Institution at the Dry Tortugas, Florida. These investigations were aided by the Huntington fund for cancer research.

In 1909 he was appointed assistant professor of Embryology and Experimental Morphology. His attention was once more focussed on the problems of embryonic development and he returned to his early interest in the origin of the lens of the eye. Experiments on this subject had already been performed by several investigators who had destroyed the optic vesicles by mechanical means, but Stockard followed an entirely different approach and showed that certain chemical substances such as magnesium salts, alcohol, chloretone, and other anaesthetic agents generally inhibit the normal outgrowth of the optic vesicles. Under these conditions the lens originates from the ectoderm without any direct stimulus whatever from an optic vesicle. Continuing his work along these lines, he carried out experimental studies on the position of the optic anlage in *Amblystoma* (1913) and of the artificial production of eye abnormalities in the chick embryo (1914). From these investigations he concluded that specific defects are not specific responses to a given chemical substance, as advocated by Herbst, Hertwig, and himself in earlier papers. Congenital defects of the eye he regarded as an index of developmental deficiencies in the whole embryo, an idea expanded later (1923) in the course of experiments on the influence of alcohol on mammalian development.

Dr. Stockard was appointed professor of Anatomy in 1911. That year he went abroad and worked in the Zoological Station at Naples and in the Anatomical Institute at Munich, visiting the most important zoological and anatomical laboratories of the continent. He returned to Germany the following summer to marry Miss Mercedes Müller of Munich.

As a natural consequence of his findings on the effects of alcohol and other narcotics on development, Dr. Stockard attacked the problem of the influence of alcohol on the germ cells and development of embryos in mammals, and the first contribution on this topic appeared 1912. He devised methods whereby guinea pigs were made to inhale alcohol fumes for variable periods, and the effects on the offspring were carefully noted. As often happens in scientific research, one problem led to another which was apparently unrelated but the solution of which was indispensable for the successful continuation of the work. One of these problems arose in the course of the experiments with alcohol when it was realized that the available data on ovulation of the guinea pig were inadequate and often misleading. With the collaboration of Dr. G. N. Papanicolaou, Dr. Stockard undertook a daily examination of the vagina of guinea pigs, preparing smears of the contents which were found to vary according to the stage of the sexual cycle. In this way the existence of a typical oestrous cycle for this animal was firmly established. The influence of this discovery on anatomical research in this country was widespread, judging from the large number

of studies on the same subject in diverse animals which followed. It also led to a painstaking study of the human sexual cycle by Dr. Papanicolaou, published in 1933.

The experiments on the influence of alcohol on the mammalian germ cells did not fill Dr. Stockard's mind to the point of displacing other interests, and once more he returned to the field of experimental Embryology. But this time he was concerned with the origin of the vascular endothelium and the blood cells. The exponents of the monophyletic theory on the origin of blood had been scoring heavily, it seemed, and claimed to have demonstrated that the different types of blood corpuscles spring from a common stem cell. Dr. Stockard sought light on this important problem in a study of blood development in *Fundulus*, but he did not limit himself to observations on normal embryos. He found that treatment of eggs at the two-celled stage with weak solutions of alcohol in sea water neither arrests the formation of the blood nor interferes with the development of the heart, but that the latter is often closed at its posterior end and that this prevents the free circulation of the blood. Nevertheless, the heart which does not contain blood may be fully developed and have a normal endothelial lining. Undoubtedly, the latter does not arise from a cell capable also of producing blood elements. Furthermore, these studies also showed that the origins of the white and red blood corpuscles, respectively, are distinct and that these two different types of cells cannot be considered to have a common origin except in so far as both arise from mesenchyme cells. The latter, however, also give rise to pigmented cells (chromatophores).

The work on the influence of alcohol on the germ cells and development lasted for a period of over thirteen years, with more than one hundred guinea pigs treated from a few months to six years, and records available from over 5,000 animals in the several generations. It aroused immediate interest not only in the medical profession but also among the laity. This was due in large measure to the adoption of the Eighteenth Amendment. Reports on these experiments—with the collaboration of Dr. Papanicolaou—appeared in various publications. While admitting that alcohol exerts a deleterious influence on the individual and causes defects and even the death of some of the offspring *in utero*, Dr. Stockard concluded that “when we consider the welfare of the race or stock rather than that of the individual, it is found that the descendants of those groups of animals which suffered the highest mortalities and thus withstood the most rigorous elimination are superior in quality to the descendants of the groups less severely affected. This individual selection furnishes a great advantage to the later generations.” Similar thoughts were expressed later by him (1924) to the discomfort of those who have cherished the idea that alcohol, even when used in moderation, spells the doom of our race.

Aside from their social implications, the alcohol experiments furnished proof that the germ cells themselves may be adversely affected because males that inhaled alcohol fumes gave rise to defective offspring although mated with vigorous untreated females. The effect of this injury of the germ cells is not only shown by the immediate offspring of alcoholized animals but is conveyed through their descendants for several generations.

In breeding such a large number of guinea pigs Dr. Stockard noticed the presence of an extra toe in some of the animals, which he regarded as the atavistic reappearance of a digit lost in the course of evolution. These observations furnished the basis for an interpretation of a similar reappearance of the great toe in the hind limbs of certain dog breeds, and it was found that when the latter are crossed with breeds which lack the great toe, its development in the first generation of hybrids seems to be inherited as a single-factor Mendelian dominant. An interpretation of true polydactyly in the human was also advanced on the basis of the findings in the guinea pig and dog.

The problem of the origin of identical twins in humans and other mammals is also a subject which had engaged Dr. Stockard's attention since his early experiments in the influence of the external factors on development. In 1921 he published an extensive article entitled "Developmental rate and structural expression: An experimental study of twins, 'double monsters' and single deformities, and the interaction among embryonic organs during their origin and development" which shed considerable light on the fundamental processes involved.

The idea that constitutional differences in humans may depend upon definite hereditary patterns of the endocrine complex of the individual held a preeminent place in Dr. Stockard's mind during the latter half of his fruitful career. His early views on this subject were largely speculative, but he was a man of great mental resourcefulness and he was determined to test their validity in the same experimental fashion that he had applied to his studies on development. The existence of wide dissimilarities in the modern breeds of dogs led him to select this animal for the experiments, especially since certain extreme human types are duplicated in the dog. With the aid of the Rockefeller Foundation he acquired a farm in Westchester County and began to assemble dogs of various breeds. At the beginning the experiment was beset with unforeseen difficulties. To raise dogs in the pure air of the country with enough space to roam about sounds like an easy matter. But even under these ideal conditions confinement in adjoining, though spacious, runs, on the one hand, and the susceptibility of some of the breeds to disease, on the other, led to problems which had little to do with the aim of the investigation. Distemper, parasitic worms, mange, and unsuspected dietary deficiencies were some of the obstacles that had to be surmounted. Dr. Stockard, however, was not a man who could be easily defeated and he immediately began to cast about for remedies and

when none existed he applied himself to discover them. This accounts for his brief excursions into the realm of veterinary medicine, especially his contributions to the treatment of distemper (translated into Norwegian by O. L. Mohr) and the transmission of immunity to this disease. Within a few years the problems of disease and diet in the dog colony had been conquered. Considering that at times there were nearly 400 dogs in adjoining kennels and with an almost negligible mortality this was no mean achievement.

An experiment of the scope of Dr. Stockard's, involving crosses between different breeds; rearing of young with pronounced disharmonies in some cases; studies on the inheritance of morphological characteristics; observations on behavior and instincts; and histological examinations of the endocrine glands, requires considerable time and patience. In the course of the last twelve years a wealth of data had been slowly accumulating. Some of the results have already been reported in various publications. At his death Dr. Stockard left an extensive manuscript covering the diverse aspects of his work. It is expected that it will be published in the near future. Had he been granted a few more years of life he could have experienced the satisfaction of having accomplished a task with the thoroughness which was so characteristic of his scientific undertakings.

Besides being a leader in scientific research Dr. Stockard was a born teacher. He had the gift of clarity and the ability to impart knowledge. He was always popular as a lecturer because he could simplify the abstruse and digest it for his hearers. Among the many lectures that he gave the following deserve special mention: Harvey Lecture, 1921; DeLamar Lectures, Johns Hopkins, 1925; Harrington Lectures, University of Buffalo, 1926; Beaumont Foundation, Detroit, 1927; Lane Lectures, Stanford University, 1930; Potter Memorial Lecture, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, 1934; and the Joseph Collins Lectures at the Academy of Medicine, New York, 1937. The subject of the Lane Lectures was expanded into a volume under the title *The Physical Basis of Personality* (New York, W. W. Norton, 1931), translated into German as *Die Körperliche Grundlage der Persönlichkeit* (Jena, G. Fischer, 1932). He contributed chapters to several books. His remarkable capacity for work made it possible for him to attend to numerous duties not related directly to teaching and research. He was at one time secretary-treasurer of the American Association of Anatomists, managing editor of the *American Journal of Anatomy*, coeditor of the *Journal of Experimental Zoology* and the *American Anatomical Memoirs*, trustee of the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, the Long Island Biological Association and the Bermuda Biological Station, and for a number of years member and then president of the board of scientific directors of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, a position which he occupied at the time of his death.

During a visit to Germany in 1922 he received the M.D. degree from the University of Würzburg. Previously, in 1920, the University of Cincinnati had conferred on him the degree of doctor of science. He was president of the American Association of Anatomists (1928-30) and the American Society of Zoologists (1925), section vice-president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; member of the Harvey Society (honorary), the American Philosophical Society, the National Academy of Sciences, the New York Academy of Medicine and the Institut International d'Embryologie of Utrecht, Holland, and others.

The friendliness of his manner, his keen sense of humor, and his frankness were duly appreciated by those who were associated with him. His influence on research in his own department is attested by the seventeen volumes of collected studies issued since 1910. Yet he did not believe in research as a duty. He preferred to speak of it as an "opportunity." This wholesome point of view explains his own attainments as an investigator, because only love of research for its own sake can lend the patience and courage required to overcome difficulties and bring the task to a successful termination. A man of his scientific stature can be substituted but not replaced.

# William Alonzo Stocking, Jr.

Professor of Dairy Husbandry

*May 13, 1872 — February 3, 1926*

The Trustees and Faculty deeply deplore the death of Professor William Alonzo Stocking, Jr., who died on February 3, 1926, after a long and painful illness. Born in Connecticut on May 13, 1872, he was graduated from the Agricultural College of his native state in 1895. Entering Cornell for further work, he was graduated B.S.A. with the class of 1898. After spending the next four years as Assistant Professor of Dairy Bacteriology at his Connecticut Alma Mater, he returned to Cornell to study for the advanced degree of M.S.A., which he received in 1904. Then began his useful and distinguished career of more than twenty years at Cornell as a teacher of dairy bacteriology, a subject which he developed from modest beginnings to a position of great importance. Becoming an instructor in 1904, he was advanced to an assistant professorship in 1906 and in 1909 was made a full professor and head of the Dairy Department. In a state in which the dairy industry has a large place, he was thus charged with great educational and administrative responsibility. He did his work with unvarying efficiency, patience, and tact. He took an active and significant part in the organizations of dairymen in the state and the nation, serving as President of the American Dairy Science Association from 1916 to 1918 and of the New York State Dairymen's Association from 1922 to 1924. In 1924 he represented the University and the United States Department of Agriculture at the International Dairy Exposition at Milan, and traveled in various European countries studying the problems of the dairyman.

As acting Dean of the College of Agriculture in 1913-14 he held the confidence and respect of the Faculty, the students, and the agricultural interests of the State.

He had the scholar's passion for learning, and in 1913 resigned the headship of his department in order to be relieved of administrative duties and devote himself exclusively to teaching and research.

A man of simple and refined tastes, he loved the open, and was never happier than when close to nature at his summer home in the Adirondack Mountains. Yet he was no recluse, and for his large humanity was honored and beloved by those with whom he came into close contact, in the classroom, in his Faculty relationships, in the church, and as a citizen. In all the walks of life which he trod, he gave of his best without stint; and his works do follow him. The pupils whom he taught and we, his colleagues, shall treasure the memory of his kindly and beneficent personality.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1452 Adopted by The Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University May, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Six*



# John Lemuel Stone

Professor of Farm Practice

*July 6, 1852 — March 8, 1933*

John Lemuel Stone, Emeritus Professor of Farm Practice at Cornell University, was born at Waverly, Pennsylvania, July 6, 1852, and died at his home in Ithaca, New York, March 8, 1933, in his eighty-first year.

Professor Stone was reared on the ancestral farm and there spent the major portion of an active, useful life. The dominant motives of his life were his love of nature, his devotion to agriculture, and his concern for the welfare of his fellowmen. These qualities made him a successful farmer, an inspiring teacher, a faithful churchman, a good neighbor, and a respected citizen.

Professor Stone was a pioneer in agricultural education. He was graduated from Cornell University in, 1874 with the degree Bachelor in Agriculture, in the second class to receive that degree. For twenty-three years following graduation he was a good farmer and leading citizen. His advice was widely sought.

In 1897 he became one of the original agricultural extension workers and an important factor in the development of the college extension and farm bureau movements. He became Assistant Professor in 1903 and Professor of Farm Practice in 1907.

He contributed largely to the development of the Agricultural College farms. Much of the careful planning and allocation of lands best suited to the needs of the departments is due to his wide knowledge of land utilization. Although not directly responsible for research in agriculture, his scientific training and first-hand knowledge of farm management problems made him a valued adviser in the organization of crop-growing and livestock projects.

As a teacher, Professor Stone won the confidence and esteem of his students. This attitude found expression in the "Stone Club," the organization of the Winter Course students in Agriculture.

Many of the valued publications of the College are of his authorship. Among them is the bulletin on "Tables for Computing Rations," which has had the largest circulation of any Cornell agricultural publication.

In 1919, after twenty-two years of devoted service to the University and to the people of the State, Professor Stone was retired as Emeritus Professor. During the remaining years of his life he maintained an active interest in numerous public welfare agencies, to which he had always given generous support.

Stone Hall serves to perpetuate the name of one who because of his efficient service and loyal devotion to agriculture and to his Alma Mater is eminently worthy of the honor. His living memorial is the immeasurable influence which he exerted upon his colleagues, his students, his neighbors, and his farmer friends. Such influence is passed on from generation to generation. It is immortal.

*Source: Fac. Rec, p. 1800 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, September, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Three*

Retired: 1919 (Fac. Rec. p. 1056)

# 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 encribed with sorrow upon the-minutes of the University Faculty.

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

*Source: Records, p. 547, April 19, 1912*

# Frank Thilly

Professor of Philosophy

— Dec. 28, 1934

In the death of Professor Frank Thilly the University has lost one of its most revered teachers and the community one of its best loved members.

Professor Thilly was twice connected with Cornell University, as Fellow of the Sage School of Philosophy and as Instructor, in 1891-93, and as Professor of Philosophy from 1906 until his death. As a young man, at a time when European training was less common than it now is, he brought to America the sound tradition of philosophical scholarship which he learned from the great teachers of Germany and notably from Kuno Fischer. His eleven years of service at the University of Missouri had a permanent influence on the standards of higher education in the Middle West. He returned to Cornell with a rich experience gained both in that University and in the two years of his professorship at Princeton.

His main concern, as a teacher and as a member of many faculty committees, was to center attention upon the essential values of education. This was manifest in the policies which he advocated as a member of the Faculty and as Dean of his College, and in his activities outside the University. With him the freedom of teaching and the perfect democracy of the intellectual life were the roots of every thought and every act. It was this conviction which led him to take an active part in the founding of the American Association of University Professors, of which he was national president.

The breadth and the accuracy of his learning made him a notable figure in his profession. By his translations he made accessible to readers of English some of the best works of German philosophical scholarship. To the leading American and European philosophical journals he contributed, for a long period of years, searching reviews of current works and authoritative articles on a wide range of topics. He was editor of the *International Journal of Ethics*, associate editor of *Kantstudien*, and one of the editors of the *Philosophical Review*, to which he was a contributor from its first number. His *Introduction to Ethics* and his *History of Philosophy* not only raised the standard of instruction in those parts of his subject in which he was especially interested but also displayed his devotion to truth and opened to many the way of understanding in a difficult science. It was his effort largely which led to the founding of the American Philosophical Association, of which he was president. His teaching was marked by a wealth of knowledge, but it was informed also by a winning and beautiful personality. His courses

exerted a lasting influence on the lives of many students, and of those who owed their professional training to him many have risen to important posts.

In him the cultivation bred of humane studies and the urbanity drawn from a cosmopolitan experience united with the simplicity of innate democracy to form a nature that embodied the best of the American spirit. His honesty of thought and deed, his industry and persistence in all good causes, and his aspiration toward the highest ends are built into the universities in which he taught, into his profession, and into the characters of those who studied with him. His gentleness and humor, his gaiety of spirit, and his singular charm are a green memory in the minds of many friends.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1870-73 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, February, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Five*

## William Crooks Thro

*May 1, 1875 — April 6, 1939*

Dr. William Crooks Thro was intimately associated with Cornell University for nearly forty years. Born in Elmira, New York, on May 1, 1875, he received his preliminary education in the public schools of that city, entered Cornell in 1896, and earned the B.S.A. degree in 1900 and the M.A. degree a year later. During the next four years he served as instructor in Histology and Embryology and began his medical studies, receiving his M.D. degree in 1907. After an interval of three years as interne in Bellevue Hospital, bacteriologist in the research laboratories of the New York City Department of Health, and instructor in Bacteriology at University and Bellevue Medical College, he returned to Cornell as assistant professor of Clinical Pathology. He was appointed professor of Clinical Pathology in 1918 and associate professor of Medicine in 1932. In December, 1936, he retired from active service because of ill health; his death occurred on April 6, 1939.

Dr. Thro will best be remembered by his associates at Cornell as a teacher of medicine. His approach was always practical, never didactic. There was a friendly informality in all his contacts with students and he had a natural gift for arousing and holding their interest by the simple clarity with which his subject was presented. His textbook on *Clinical Laboratory Methods* owed its popularity to the same qualities that characterized his work in the classroom and laboratory. Like every great teacher he took a keen interest in the personal problems of his students and gave freely of advice, sympathy, and even more material help when needed. His laboratory and his services were always available to anyone who wished to do serious work in his field.

During his service as assistant to Gage, Comstock, and others in his early collegiate years, Dr. Thro was privileged to see scientific research at its best. The field of investigation had a strong appeal for him and his studies on poliomyelitis, on the streptococci, and on blood dyscrasias were worthy contributions to medical literature. His bibliography, while not voluminous, is select and shows his ever present sense of the practical.

And now this genial, kindly person is gone. His friends will never forget nor cease to miss him. His college will never have a more loyal or devoted servant. Cornell is different, somehow, without Bill Thro.

# Robert Henry Thurston

Director of Sibley College and Professor of Mechanical Engineering

— *October 25, 1903*

The Faculty and Instructing Staff of Cornell University, wishing to give voice to the sentiments evoked by the death of their colleague and friend, Professor Robert Henry Thurston, Director of Sibley College, have directed the following to be entered upon the records of the University Faculty and communicated to his family :

Professor Thurston came among us in 1885 when the University had barely entered upon its present era of development, and the college over which he came to preside was still small in numbers and poor in equipment. During the eighteen years of his labors he witnessed the progress of the University in all of its departments and the remarkable growth of Sibley College. His own contribution to this splendid result can hardly be overestimated. To his wise and farsighted policy and his tactful and efficient administration is due, in greatest measure, the development of Sibley College, which now constitutes the largest unit of our University organization and holds an assured place among the foremost technical schools of the world.

In all his relations to general University problems he exhibited the spirit of the scholar and the wisdom of the man of affairs. Serene in temper, sound in judgment, swift and certain in action, he justly exercised a weighty influence in all our counsels.

As a colleague he exhibited an interest in all good learning that bespoke the true scholar and the generous fellow-worker.

As a friend and companion he manifested a cordial sympathy that attracted all who knew him and held them in the bonds of increasing affection.

In all the relations of life he moved upon the higher levels and shewed forth the better qualities of our nature.

His loss falls heavily upon us, his colleagues and friends, upon the College whose head he was, and upon the University in whose history he has borne a distinguished part. It falls most heavily upon his family, whose grief we share and to whom we desire to express our profound and sincere sympathy.

*Committee: T. F. Crane, E. W. Huffcut, W. F. Durand*

*Source: Records, p. 233, November 6, 1903*

# Moses Coit Tiler

Professor of American Constitutional History

— Dec. 28, 1899

The special committee appointed at the last meeting to draft resolutions on the death of Professor Moses Coit Tyler reported the following resolution:

“On Friday, the 28th of December, in the last week of the closing century, it pleased God to take from among us our revered colleague, Professor Moses Coit Tyler. To his family, to society, to scholarship and to literature, the loss is heavy. It falls with peculiar weight on this University and on its Faculty. For nearly twenty years his place among us was unique. He came to us, in 1881, ripe, not alone with the training of the scholar, but with a rare social and literary experience. To a wide acquaintance with men of letters on both sides of the sea he added freshly-won prestige of an epoch-making book. Thus from the first he brought to our deliberations and activities the dignity of a matured character and the poise of an assured eminence. In our debates we deferred to his broad knowledge of academic life and to his singular union of a wise conservatism with openness of mind. In the social circle we found him ever courtly of presence, genial of manner, austere of conviction yet buoyant of temper, fertile in thought and in anecdote, delicate in fancy, affluent and happy in diction bubbling with playful humor, yet wielding at need a trenchant irony. In daily life he proved himself a thoughtful neighbor, a tender and loyal friend, sensitive to his own rights but not less quick to recognize those of others. We were proud of what we learned of his work in the class room and in the study; yet, though he was our model in the rigor of his devotion to the tasks of his pen, we knew that he was not less scrupulous in the maintenance of the highest physical vigor, and those of us so happy as sometimes to share with him his walks or his rides knew, too, what a love of nature and of common life, what a boyish glee in out-of-doors, were his to the end. Above all, and at the heart of all, we felt him a man of reverence and of faith, broad yet earnest, tolerant yet devout; and the graces of his personality drew their best charm from the deeper sanctities of his character. Such a man we do well to mourn.”

*Source: Records, p. 141, February 8, 1901*



# 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.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1513 Adopted by the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University October, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Seven*

# Kenneth Bertrand Turner

Assistant Professor of Hydraulics

*July 19, 1882 — October 21, 1918*

The death of Assistant Professor Kenneth Bertrand Turner on October 21, 1918, has deprived the instructing staff of Cornell University of one of its most able and conscientious teachers.

Entering the University in September 1899 as a student in Civil Engineering he pursued that course with credit and enthusiasm, receiving the degree of Civil Engineer in 1903 and the degree of M.C.C. in 1905. For a year, following the completion of his work for the Master's degree, he served as Recorder with the United States Lake Survey. In the autumn of 1906, he returned to the University as an instructor in Civil Engineering and two years later was made Assistant Professor of Hydraulics.

From the autumn of 1906 until his death he literally devoted his entire time and energy, with the exception of a sabbatic leave during the first term of 1915–16, to the work of his chosen college. Endowed with a physique which refused to recognize fatigue, thoroughly conversant with the many details of his work, ever actuated by the spirit of the investigator, and possessed of a genial and cheerful personality, he combined in an enviable manner those qualities which mark the progressive, virile teacher, and which gained for him the respect and the confidence of his associates and of the students who passed under his influence. Though he had published but little, he spent many hours in research both of a commercial and of a theoretical character, and a mass of as yet unpublished data on the flow of water over weirs secured by the Department of Hydraulic Engineering bears mute testimony of his cooperation and ceaseless activity.

Be it resolved—that this faculty deeply deplores the early cessation of his labors; that it enter upon its records this appreciation of his faithful and zealous application to his University duties; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the bereaved family.

*Source: Fac. Rec, p. 1013 Resolution Adopted By The Faculty of Cornell University on The Eleventh Day of December, 1918.*

# Herbert Tuttle

Professor of Modern European History

— *June 21, 1894*

On the morning of Commencement Day, June the 21st, 1894, there passed from earth our colleague, Professor Herbert Tuttle. In resuming without him the duties in which he was so long our associate, it is fitting that we put upon record our deep sense of his worth and of our loss.

From his entrance into this Faculty in the autumn of 1881, Professor Tuttle took an active and efficient part in the conduct of the University. The keenness of his mind, the vigor and courage of his convictions, his invincible independence, his experience of affairs, his power of exact and cogent statement, gave at all times weight to his counsels. To the work of his class-room he brought the same wealth of research, the same maturity of judgment, the same precision of diction, the same grace of literary expression, which give just eminence to his published writings. In all his University relations, the uncompromising honesty of his nature, impatient of pretense and equivocation, his humor, keen and often caustic, his sensitive and aggressive temper, his outrightness and downrightness, stamped with the force of a positive individuality whatever he said or did. By all who knew him well and not least by his colleagues in this Faculty, he must ever be sorely missed and sincerely mourned.

The Committee recommends that this expression of our grief be made a part of the records of the Faculty and communicated to the relatives of our late colleague.

*Source: Records D, pp. 168, 169*

# Charles Mellen Tyler

— *May 15, 1918*

The following resolutions on the death of Professor Charles Mellen Tyler were prepared (during the summer vacation) by a committee appointed by the President and consisting of Professors E. L. Nichols, W. Strunk, Jr., and E. Albee, Chairman, a committee appointed with power:

The University Faculty of Cornell University desire to express their deep sorrow at the death of their honored and beloved colleague, the Reverend Charles Mellen Tyler, D.D., Professor Emeritus of the History and Philosophy of Religion and of Christian Ethics, and to record their appreciation of him as a scholar and as a man.

After distinguished service in the church, in the General Court of Massachusetts, and as chaplain in the field in the arduous campaign of the Wilderness, Dr. Tyler came in 1872 to Ithaca, where his unusual gifts of mind and character made him a valued member of the community, in his office of clergyman and in civic and social life. After serving the University for five years as Trustee, he became in 1891 a member of the original faculty of the Sage School of Philosophy. He served for twelve years as professor, until his retirement in 1903, when he became Professor Emeritus and Lecturer. Since 1907 he has continued with Cornell University as a member of the Board of Trustees.

As Professor, Dr. Tyler is remembered with affection and gratitude, alike by his colleagues and by his students. His personal charm and his unfailing courtesy endeared him not only to his friends of long standing, but to the latest comers and the most diffident, while his openness of mind and aptness for lucid exposition made the work of his class-room attractive and stimulating. No one did more to make us realize that, as members of the University, in spite of all differences in our methods of approaching the truth, we are spiritually one body, and that our interests are not confined to the material and to the temporal. At a time of thoroughgoing and even radical reconstruction in many fields of investigation and speculation, Dr. Tyler was never unprogressive or intolerant, for he never forsook the essentially humane point of view. Always ready to welcome the accredited results of modern scientific thought, his faith was even more in the future than in the past. More than usually endowed with sympathy and imagination, Dr. Tyler was not only keenly susceptible to all suggestions of beauty in nature and art, but in his daily walk and conversation he unconsciously exemplified the beautiful as well as the fearlessly true and the humanely good. And his military figure, erect to the last, looked always forward.

We hereby express our sorrow and extend our sympathy to the family of our late colleague and friend.

*Source: Records, p. 1043, February 12, 1919*

# Martha Van Rensselaer

Director of the College of Home Economics

— *May 26, 1931*

A long service of peculiar significance in Cornell University was brought to a close by the death of Director Martha Van Rensselaer on May 26, 1931. It was she who made the earliest beginnings in home economics education in the University, first in extension work among the women of the State, and later in resident instruction. Every step in the entire development of the work in home economics, organized first as a department in the College of Agriculture, then as a school, and finally as one of the constituent colleges of the University, was taken under her guidance, and every activity of this large enterprise had, to the day of her death, her closest scrutiny.

Miss Van Rensselaer was called to Cornell University in 1900 to set up an educational service for women living on the farms of the State. The type of work thus begun has grown into a highly organized and effective movement permeating the entire State, still receiving leadership and technical assistance from the College of Home Economics, but firmly established in the interest and activity of organized groups of women in all parts of the State. This phase of the work remained throughout as Miss Van Rensselaer's direct and chief responsibility.

Together with Miss Flora Rose, who became her associate in directing the development of home economics at Cornell University, Miss Van Rensselaer initiated in 1907 the instruction of resident students, taking an active part herself in the teaching relating to the family, the widening interests of women, and household management. The work of resident instruction has grown steadily, outstripping the successive material provisions for it.

It is Director Van Rensselaer's distinction that she accomplished these pioneer efforts and, because of her own growth, maintained an effective and stimulating leadership in her field throughout her thirty-two years of service. It is a record that discloses wisdom in planning, vigor in carrying through, fortitude under many discouragements, and capacity for long-sustained, hard work. In all of her activities, official and personal, she emanated a spirit of joy in her work, of genuineness, of simplicity, and of warm and generous understanding.

Miss Van Rensselaer's leadership in home economics was widely recognized and great demands were made upon it. During the World War she was called upon to take charge of the Division of Home Conservation in the United States Food Administration. Death came to her as she was recording the findings of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, and of the President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership, to each of which undertakings she had been summoned for active leadership.

The memory of Miss Van Rensselaer's personality and of her fruitful activities, together with her ideals of home economics education, which grew with the years, will be a lasting heritage for the University and especially for the College which she administered; and the College, in turn, will ever be a great memorial, in the University, of her devoted service.

*Source: Fac. Rec, pps. 1737, 1745 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University, November, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Two*

# Lucien Augustus Wait

— Sept. 6, 1913

“We, the members of the University Faculty, desire to place on record an expression of appreciation of the life and services of Lucien Augustus Wait, a detailed report of which was placed on our record on the occasion of his retirement in 1910 (President’s Report, 1909-10, Appendix II, pages VIII and IX.)

“Upon his return from a two years’ journey around the world, he renewed his keen interest in the affairs of the University, in particular of the Department of Mathematics, in the progress it was making in research, and in the welfare of its members. We shall all miss his kindly sympathy and helpful encouragement. We express our sorrow and extend our sympathy to the bereaved family of our late associate and friend.”

*G. P. Bristol, E. L. Nichols, V. Snyder*

*Source: Records, p. 609, October 15, 1913*

## RETIREMENT STATEMENT

On the retirement of Professor Lucien Augustus Wait from active teaching after a long and successful career, his colleagues in the University Faculty desire to place on record their high estimate of his services to the cause of education and sound learning.

Called in 1870 to an Assistant Professorship in the Department of Mathematics in the third year of its history, fresh from study at Harvard, he bore an important part in shaping the policy of the Department, and in establishing its well-known high standards. His unusual ability as a teacher and organizer led to his promotion in 1877 to the Associate Headship of the Department, relieving Professor Oliver of much of the administrative work ; and he became sole head at Professor Oliver’s death in 1895.

His administration has always been notable for efficiency, harmony, and devotion to high ideals of scholarship. In planning the mathematical instruction, he has kept steadily in view its various aims and purposes, including intellectual discipline, preparation for the scientific professions or for work in pure science, and the training of teachers and investigators. How well he has succeeded in the difficult task of holding an even balance among the diverse interests is well-known to all who have had any personal concern in the matter. On the disciplinary side, he has been careful to have the instruction of every grade placed upon a sound logical basis; on the scientific side, while keeping in close touch with the related departments in the College of Arts and Sciences, he has also studied

the needs of the various professional Colleges; and in the interests of prospective teachers he has always given due prominence to the pedagogical side of the work.

A notable feature of his administration is the encouragement he has given to the research work of his younger colleagues and of the graduate students. He has always planned that each instructor, after his initiatory period, should take some share in the graduate work, and should not be so overburdened as to leave him no time for his private investigations. Professor Wait has also encouraged the preparation of suitable text-books, being ever eager to adopt progressive methods of presentation and instruction, and has himself set an example of thoroughness and effectiveness in the class-room.

While firm in enforcing the rules and standards of the Department, his unfailing courtesy is proverbial; and his qualities as a teacher and a man have gained him the warm regard of a long line of Cornell alumni, and of the Faculty and Trustees, many of whom are numbered among his former students.

A man of ripe and varied culture, Professor Wait has taken a deep interest in all the educational problems which have come up before the Faculty, and his accustomed attitude has exhibited a fine blending of the progressive and the conservative. We shall miss his genial presence from our meetings, but we hope he may long remain a member of our University community.

*Source: Records, p. 494, June 10, 1910*



# George Frederick Warren

*February 16, 1874 — May 24, 1938*

The death of Professor Warren on May 24, 1938, brought to its close the notable career of one of the most widely known and most eminent members of the Faculty of Cornell University.

George Frederick Warren was born, the son of a farm family, near Harvard, Nebraska, on February 16, 1874. Graduating from the University of Nebraska in 1897, where his special interest had been mathematics, he devoted himself during the next five years to teaching in the high schools of his native State. In 1902 he resigned his position as superintendent of schools in Minden, Nebraska, and came to Cornell University to study under Professor L. H. Bailey. He received the degree of bachelor of science in agriculture in 1903 and was appointed to a fellowship for the next year, in the course of which he earned the degree of master of science in agriculture. In 1905 Cornell University conferred upon him the doctorate of philosophy, and he left the University to become horticulturist of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

Returning to this University in 1906 as assistant professor of Agronomy, his promotion kept pace with the development, under Dean Bailey, of the rapidly expanding New York State College of Agriculture. While still an assistant professor he was, in 1907, made head of the newly organized department of Farm Crops. With unusual vision and untiring effort he undertook the development of research and teaching in the then but little explored field of Farm Management. In 1909 his accomplishments in this field were recognized by his promotion to a full professorship as the head of an expanded department of Farm Crops and Farm Management. With a reorganization of departments in the college in 1911, he became professor of Farm Management and head of that department. Again pioneering, he undertook investigations into the broader aspects of the farmer's economic problems, with the result that in 1919 his contributions in this direction were recognized in the establishment of the department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management, of whose staff he remained the head and the inspiring leader until his untimely death.

Professor Warren inherited to a marked degree the pioneering spirit of his forefathers. This spirit found expression through his leadership in the initiation and development of the largest and most outstanding department of agricultural economics and farm management in the agricultural institutions of this country. No one man has wielded greater influence than he in the development of this field or has made more important and lasting contributions to the basic principles of economics as applied to agricultural problems. His renown in this phase

of modern agricultural thought and practice is world-wide. He was a great teacher, as witness the host of able and brilliant young men who have gone forth moulded and inspired by his teaching to take positions of great importance and responsibility. They are to be found today in universities, in governmental organizations, and in other public services not only throughout the United States but also in nearly every country in the world.

Born and raised a farmer, he ever sensed and understood the problems and point of view of the American landsman. Through the eyes of a farmer he saw the economic problems of the American farm people. With keen insight, with unbiased judgment, and with untiring devotion to their welfare, he sought to solve their problems and lead them along the road of safety and success. No member of this faculty commanded a larger or more devoted audience when he arose to speak in public; no teacher was more respected and loved by his students.

In the death of George Frederick Warren this Faculty recognizes an irreparable loss. The most eminent agricultural economist of his time, a teacher of rare ability and great influence, a pioneer in agricultural science and teaching, a noted citizen, a loved and respected colleague, we record our heartfelt tribute to his memory.

# Andrew D. White

— Nov. 4, 1918

The following resolutions on the death of Ex-President White were prepared by a committee consisting of President Schurman, chairman, Professors Burr, Bennett, and Hammond, and although not read to the Faculty, they were approved for purpose of record:

Ripe in years and in honors, at his home on our Campus on the eve of his eighty-sixth birthday, President White quietly entered into rest. A half-century has passed since first on that Campus the Faculty of Cornell gathered about its young President; a third of a century since he laid the presidency down. Of the original Faculty not one is still in active service; of those who during his presidency joined the teaching corps there are left in it but one or two. But what he has meant to Cornell is known to us all. The University was his thought. Her fundamental documents—the charter, the plan of organization, the earliest announcements—were mainly or wholly his work. Whatever the share of others in her material foundation or in broadening the scope of her beneficence, it was he who planned her curriculum, chose her teachers, shaped her educational policies. To him she owes her breadth, her democracy, her guarantees of intellectual freedom. From his own purse he eked out her resources, enriched her library, added grace and color to her sober beginnings. All our life here has breathed the atmosphere of his thought, of his taste, and in his own person he has been to us the embodiment and interpretation of Cornell.

But Dr. White has been to us much more than a reminder of the past. Though he refused an honorary presidency, and consented to act only as a Trustee, his place in our academic life has been unique. His exceptional relation to the university, his catholic hospitality, his interest in everything and everybody pertaining to Cornell, have opened the door to acquaintance. His home, overrunning with books, abounding in art, rich with the treasure-trove of wide and life-long travel, has remained a center and inspiration to our social life. There, in his study or about his table, we have come into touch with the broader world of men and affairs; and, with his every return from the high public duties to which he has been called, he has brought back to us a riper experience, a wider acquaintance, a fresh wealth of books and of beauty. Best of all, he has brought to us himself—his charm of manner, his quiet refinement, his breadth of information, his vast store of anecdote, his zest and alertness of interest in all things human, his wide sweet outlook over men and things, his kindliness of judgment, his wise and gentle courtesy, his loftiness of soul. Few men like him have known how to be rich without waste or ostentation, learned without eruditeness, dignified without arrogance, fastidious without censoriousness, democratic without a trace of vulgarity, cosmopolitan without loss of patriotism or public spirit.

To our students, as to us, he has been an exemplar. If less than we they heard his voice or shared his acquaintance, they have read to pieces his books, memorized his public addresses, lived again under the guidance of his writings the vicissitudes of early Cornell; and this liberalizing, emancipating influence has been quickened and deepened by their glimpses of the revered figure so long a center for our loyalties.

He is gone; and with his going there ends for us an era. No record can replace that living presence. But his memory will be to us a perpetual benediction.

*Source: Records, p. 1033, January 8, 1919.*

Retired: June, 1885. Fac. Rec. B. pps. 112, ...

# Burt Green Wilder

Professor of Neurology and Vertebrate Zoology

*1841 — January 21, 1925*

By the death on January 21, 1925, of Dr. Burt Green Wilder, Cornell University loses almost the last member of her original faculty. The pupil of Oliver Wendell Holmes, of Jeffries Wyman, of Asa Gray, of Louis Agassiz, and attached to these great teachers by an almost religious affection, he brought to our chair of zoology notable traditions. Since 1866 he had been Agassiz's assistant and it was Agassiz who, backed by Asa Gray, named him for the new institution, in whose fortunes both were deeply interested. Appointed among the very first of its professors in September of 1867, more than a year before our doors were opened to students, Dr. Wilder was of great help in the gathering of our equipment; and for more than forty years, till his retirement from teaching in 1910 and his return in 1911 to the Massachusetts home of his boyhood, he served this university with a singular fidelity,

Born at Boston in 1841, he was a precocious lover of nature and his studies were from the first chiefly devoted to natural science; but at his issue from Harvard in 1862 the country's call took him into the hospitals of the civil war and to the front as a surgeon, and on his return in 1865 a further year was given to the completion of his medical studies. Then, however, he turned to the career of the scholar. At Cornell he showed himself from the start a teacher of rare powers. He was a master of exposition. The charm of his diction and the lucid grace of his style made him captivating alike by voice and pen. His lecture room was always crowded and his articles found welcome in our best magazines. But he was, before all, the patient and conscientious leader of research. Working quietly but tirelessly in the midst of his students, and ever ready to interrupt his investigation to listen to a question or to share with those about him some fascinating discovery, his laboratory was a fruitful nursery of budding scholarship. Nor was his interest in his students confined to class room and laboratory. Many bear in lifelong memory the kindly word or thoughtful act that showed his sympathy in their personal haps and mishaps,

As did few others Dr. Wilder shared the unconventional ideals of the young university, and to the end he was their champion. For his personal convictions, too, he was always ready to do battle, and it never dismayed him if his cause was unpopular. For the simplified spelling of English, for a better nomenclature in anatomy, for temperance rather than abstinence in the use of alcoholics, against tobacco, against secret societies, against intercollegiate athletics, he stood with uncompromising frankness, regardless of opposition and of ridicule. Discrimination because of race or sex found always in him a zealous foe. This ruggedness of personality has given him large place in student legend as well as in the memory of his colleagues. In the faculty he was often a minority of one; but

he held his ground, and the music of his diction, coupled with his unwavering courtesy, made him always gladly heard.

From the poverty of Cornell's early years none perhaps suffered more than Dr. Wilder and his work; but he bore its burdens and deprivations with exemplary patience, and through it all, despite the weight of his duties, he was a prolific contributor to the literature of science. His published papers number many scores. But he welcomed with joy the growing prosperity which enabled him to turn over division after division of his biological teaching to new and soon independent departments and permitted his larger attention to those neurological studies which were ever the center of his interest. If even in this best loved field he leaves behind him no work of long breath, it is due not less to his sacrifice of self to his teaching and to the public spirit which spurred him to a share in righting every wrong than to his unbounded conscientiousness and his all too scrupulous concern for the details of method. Both as teacher and as investigator he leaves a name not soon to be forgotten.

*Source: Fac. Rec., pps. 497, 1410 Adopted By The Trustees And Faculty Of Cornell University June, Nineteen Hundred And Twenty-Five*

# Henry Shaler Williams

— July 31, 1918

The death of Professor Henry Shaler Williams having occurred in the last summer vacation when the University was not in session and the Faculty had no opportunity to adopt resolutions, it was voted to concur in the following resolutions of the Board of Trustees adopted August 3, 1918, and to record the same in the minutes of this Faculty:

The Trustees of Cornell University learn with great sorrow of the death of Professor Henry Shaler Williams, Emeritus Professor of Geology in this University.

It is now nearly forty years since Professor Williams became a member of the teaching staff of this institution. During the long period of his services as teacher, from which he retired in 1912, he endeared himself to his students by his unselfish devotion to them; and during the longer period of his association with his colleagues in the Faculty and with members of the Board of Trustees he won their affection and respect by his sterling qualities as a man and his attainments as a scholar.

As a teacher he was very conscientious; he was especially strong as a teacher in his laboratory, where his close personal attention and his constructive criticism gave his students a training of incalculable value.

As an investigator he attained a very high rank. His studies of Devonian paleontology, of the geological history of organisms, and of the evolution and geographical and geological modification of the fossil faunas stand out as important contributions to the literature of these subjects. He was honored by election to the more important American and foreign geological societies.

Although his devotion to his students and his attainments as an investigator gave him eminence, yet to those of us associated with him he will be remembered especially because of his personality. His sweetness and gentleness of character and his thoughtfulness of others won him the love of all who were so happy as to know him. We mourn the loss to the world of a teacher and a scholar and our loss of a friend.

*Source: Records, p. 1042, February 12, 1919*

## Samuel Gardner Williams

Professor of the Science and Art of Teaching, Emeritus, and former Professor of Geology.

— *May 19, 1900*

The Committee appointed at the special meeting of May 21st introduced the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

*Resolved*, that this Faculty has learned with profound regret of the death of their colleague, Samuel Gardner Williams, professor of the Science and Art of Teaching, Emeritus, and former professor of Geology. During an association of more than twenty years, Professor Williams endeared himself to his colleagues by his genial disposition, his public spirit, and his continual readiness to perform his full share of the various duties incumbent upon his office. His long and varied experience as a teacher through all the grades of instruction, from the country school to the University, gave him an admirable equipment for his position, to which he united a wide range of personal acquaintance with the teachers of the state, and great practical familiarity with educational movements and organizations.

This Faculty desires to record its appreciation of the public and private virtues of one whose name is now to be added to the lengthening roll of those who have had a prominent part in the councils of the Faculty, and in the successful development of the University.

*Resolved*, that we tender to the surviving family of Professor Williams an expression of our sincere sympathy, that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Faculty, and that a copy be delivered to the family of our departed colleague.”

*Source: Records, p. 127, June 1, 1900*



## William Dexter Wilson

Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy

— July 30, 1900

The special Committee appointed at the last meeting to draft resolutions on the death of the Reverend Doctor Wilson, reported the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, The Faculty of Cornell University having learned of the death of the Reverend Doctor William Dexter Wilson, for eighteen years Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy and Registrar, and since 1886 Professor Emeritus, desire to express and put upon record their appreciation of his personal qualities and of his services to the University. Appointed at the very beginning of the University to the important positions he so long filled, he was one of the few professors who already possessed an extensive experience in collegiate administration and instruction. This experience was in those early years of great benefit to the University and was accompanied by the most unselfish devotion to its interests. His duties as Professor and Registrar gave him an intimate acquaintance with the whole body of students, to whom he endeared himself by his ready sympathy and tireless devotion to their advancement. His wide range of knowledge and ripe scholarship contributed to the progress of liberal studies, while his pure and consistent Christian life was a potent factor in moulding the character of the students of the University.

To his colleagues he was a loyal, unselfish friend, ever willing, when called upon, to impart the counsels of his rich experience, and whose influence was always exerted for peace and harmony.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be accepted as expressing the sentiments of the Faculty and that a copy be sent to the family of the late Dr. Wilson.”

*Source: Records, p. 136, November 2, 1900*

# Henry Hiram Wing

Professor of Animal Husbandry

*November 29, 1859 — Nov. 21, 1936*

In the death of Professor Wing, Cornell University has lost one of the founders of her College of Agriculture, one of her ablest teachers and administrators, and New York State has lost one of her soundest, conservative agricultural leaders.

Henry Hiram Wing was born in New York City on November 29, 1859 but only the first four months of his life were spent there. His love for agriculture, his choice of an education, and his lifelong service in this field were largely determined by his early life and training on a farm in Dutchess County, New York. He entered Cornell in 1877, graduated with his class, and was honored by election to the office of class secretary for life. Soon after graduation he became Assistant Director of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, and two years later he went to the Nebraska Experiment Station where he served as instructor in agriculture and superintendent of the University farm, and as editor of *The Nebraska Farmer*. In 1888 he was called to Cornell to begin forty years' service, ending in his retirement in 1928. He first served as deputy director and secretary of the Experiment Station. In addition to these duties, he served for many years as Secretary of the College and, as well, as Professor of Animal Husbandry. Along with Roberts, Law, Caldwell, Comstock, Prentiss, Williams, and Bailey, Professor Wing was truly one of the founders of the College of Agriculture.

No higher compliment can be paid to a teacher than that his students wish to honor him. The work that Professor Wing did in tirelessly training students with meager equipment and few facilities is shown today by the great improvement in the Guernsey and Holstein breeds brought about by some of his former students. Through the efforts of a group of his old students, he was honored by having the coliseum at the New York State Fair named Wing Coliseum in 1934. It is fitting that this building should be so named. It typifies the fact that he trained some of the greatest judges and teachers of the art of livestock production and breeding in the United States.

Professor Wing believed in research and was a quiet, hard-working investigator. His many bulletins, especially those on the effect of feed on milk and fat production, and his development of the famous Glista family of Holstein-Friesian cattle are evidence of his painstaking thought and active mind. He envisioned the importance of records of production of milk and fat in breeding dairy cattle. As secretary of the Alpha Chapter of Sigma Xi for many years he was active in his relations with his colleagues in research. His book, *Milk and Its Products*, has long been a standard text.

New York State is the mother state in the development of the greatest of our breeds of dairy cattle, the Holstein-Friesian breed. Professor Wing early identified himself with this breed and much of the success of the early breeders is due to his retentive memory and attention to minute detail. His integrity and leadership gave just the right balance and security to the production records made in this breed in the early days. His fellow breeders later honored him by electing him President of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America.

In the years 1910 to 1920 in New York came a development in the cooperative purchase of farm supplies. As a staunch member of the New York State Grange, as President of the New York State Dairymen's Association, and as a life member of the New York State Agricultural Society, Professor Wing watched the interest in cooperation grow and he served well in the beginning by helping form the New York State Grange Exchange. Later he served as its president. From this modest beginning in cooperative enterprise has grown Ithaca's largest business enterprise, the Cooperative Grange League Federation Exchange, that now serves more than 75,000 patrons and purchases for them many millions of dollars worth of farm supplies each year. Thus, through the foresight, judgment, and business ability of Professor Wing, has the influence of Cornell been extended in a helpful, material way among the farmers of New York.

Professor Wing was loved by his students and by his friends in the University and outside. He has been remembered and honored by them. His fellow citizens showed their belief in his ability and straight thinking by electing him as one of the members of Ithaca's first Common Council in the years 1905-1909, where his knowledge of the city's financial problems made itself felt. But there was another side of his nature that must not be forgotten. He was loved in his church and found time to serve her, too. Here the prominent side of his character, the trust his fellowmen had in him, was manifest in his long service as treasurer of the Ithaca Congregational Church.

By this brief review of a quiet, many-sided, useful life as lived by Professor Wing, we are again reminded how beautiful and well ordered a man's life may be when he serves his University, his state, his church, his community, and his family, quietly and to the best of his ability. He died at Little Falls, New York on November 21, 1936.

*Source: Fac. Rec., p. 1981 Resolutions of the Trustees and Faculty of Cornell University May, Nineteen Hundred And Thirty-Seven*

Retired: June 1928 Fac. Rec., p. 1565

