

WINTHROP ELLSWORTH STONE.

Born—Chesterfield, N. H., June 12, 1862.

B. S.—Massachusetts Agricultural College, 1882.

B. S.—Boston University, 1886.

Ph. D.—Göttingen, 1888.

LL. D.—Michigan Agricultural College, 1907.

Assistant Chemist, Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station, 1884-1886.

Student at Göttingen, 1886-1888.

Chemist, Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station, 1888-1889.

Professor of Chemistry, Purdue University, 1889-1900.

Vice-President and Professor of Chemistry, Purdue University, 1892-1900.

President, Purdue University, 1900 to July 17, 1921.

These are the significant dates in a life of unremitting toil and high achievements—a life that meant much to the State and to the cause of education. They are more than mere dates, for they tell of heredity, of natural aptitudes, of training, of ambitions and of achievements. The great, steady sweep of such a life can only be realized by those who through the intimacies of daily association have been able to separate its incidental surface features from its underlying fundamental and basic principles.

To his New England ancestry we can attribute the Pilgrim element in his blood. He had the Pilgrim faith in Almighty God and the Pilgrim faith in his own high mission. In the courage born of these faiths he did his work and lived his life. To the accomplishment of the high purpose to which he felt he was called he devoted every power of body and mind and soul, and no pressure of persuasion or criticism could turn him from the path he had marked out, which was to him the path of duty.

He had also in a very large measure the Pilgrim's instinctive sense of fairness and justice. In all of the years of my association with President Stone, I never heard his fairness questioned. We might feel at times that there was a little too much of the New England granite in him, but we never questioned the absolute fairness and justice of his decisions.

In spite of his manifold duties President Stone was always easily accessible. No member of the University force ever failed to receive a patient and sympathetic hearing. He was indeed essentially democratic; he hedged himself about with no dignities; he was a man among men in the University life, but, *facile princeps*.

It is scarcely necessary to speak of his fine integrity. It pervaded his every act. It was a part of his very being. His acts were as direct and clean cut as his thoughts and words. This ingrained honesty made him a man both positive and aggressive. He never avoided an issue, nor feared a fight for what seemed to him to be right. He was noth-



ing of an opportunist, very little of a politician. He fought in the open and won his battles not by indirection but because of the righteousness of his cause.

He was finely sensitive to the moralities of life and was persistent in efforts to improve the moral conditions surrounding the thousands of students under his direction and for whose welfare he was in a large measure held responsible. He felt the obligations of citizenship as few of us do, and whether called for duty by city, State or nation gave loyal and effective service. If the purpose of our Universities is to develop a trained citizenship, then President Stone was at once a matchless leader and a brilliant example.

If we attempt to measure him by those things which appealed to him in his moments of leisure and relaxation we may perhaps gain a truer conception of his fine and attractive personality. He was an intense lover of music, losing no opportunity of hearing great artists. His was a taste trained to the appreciation of the best both in theme and interpretation. He played no instrument, he did not sing, but he found in music that which answered needs of mind and heart and soul. He loved books, and here again his taste was of the best. It needed but a casual glance at his library to see how wide-ranging were his interests and what his books meant to him. But above all he loved nature. He loved flowers and trees and knew them; he loved birds and animals and understood their ways; he loved the outdoor world and revelled in its beauties, whether it was the serene and quiet beauty of the meadows and lakes and rivers, or the majestic, ineffable grandeur and beauty of glacier-clad mountains. One can readily understand what such a passion for nature meant to the tired man, not merely in satisfying his love for beauty, but as an actual recreation.

If he had to leave us, there is something of comfort in the thought that in full vigor of body and mind, doing that which called him so compellingly, having won the summit he had sought to conquer, he entered upon the "*great adventure.*"

President Stone became a member of the Academy in 1889, when he took the chair of Chemistry at Purdue University. In the earlier years of his membership he was regular in his attendance upon both the winter and spring meetings. As administrative duties crowded upon him he found himself unable to attend as frequently as he desired. In spite of this he never lost interest in the Academy, attending its sessions when it was possible for him to do so, and each year urging members of the faculty to an active participation in its affairs. In his early years he published quite largely, as will be seen by the following bibliography, for the compilation and use of which I am indebted to Dr. P. N. Evans:

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