

## John Littlefield Tilton

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## NOTABLE DEATHS

JOHN LITTLEFIELD TILTON was born January 11, 1863, at Nashua, New Hampshire, and died at Morgantown, West Virginia, November 11, 1930. For many years he occupied the chair of physics and geology in Simpson College, and for twenty years he was attached in special investigations on the Iowa Geological Survey. Dr. Tilton's early education was obtained in the public schools of his native village. Afterward he attended Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, from which he received the degrees of A. B. in 1885 and A. M. in 1888. He also received the degrees of A. M. from Harvard in 1895, and of Ph. D. from Chicago in 1910. After teaching a year in Niantic, Connecticut, he was museum assistant in natural history in Wesleyan in 1886-88; professor of geology and physics in Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa, 1888-1920; associate professor of geology in West Virginia University in 1920-23, and professor in 1923-30. He was geologist, Iowa Geological Survey, and paleontologist, West Virginia Geological Survey; was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, of the Geological Society of America, of the Paleontological Society of America, of the West Virginia Academy of Science, of which he was president in 1928 and 1929, and of the Iowa Academy of Science, being president of the latter in 1907. His specialty was the geology of central and southwestern Iowa, and the paleontology of West Virginia. Dr. Tilton was not only a scientist of wide reputation, but an outstanding personage in the educational field of our state, and in religious circles. The place occupied by him in the religious life of our state was rather unique. A firm advocate of the doctrine of evolution he was also a firm believer in theology. His outstanding function seemed to be to reconcile science and religion, and in this he was eminently successful. Beyond all doubt this reconciliation of the two was measurably advanced by his written and spoken words. On this delicate and much discussed topic he was the author of many articles in the religious journals, as well as the secular press; and he gave expression of his views widely in the classroom, in the pulpit and before the microphone. His teaching came to the lives of young people at a time when new revelations often wreck, or threaten, Christian faiths. At this period Professor Tilton carried many over the crisis opening to them a wider vision of the truths of science, yet leaving firm the underlying principles of their religious faith. To him God was indeed truth. —C.R.K.

ROBERT MULLINS WRIGHT was born in Sheffield, England, November 1, 1844, and died in Fort Dodge, Iowa, June 11, 1931. Burial was in Oakland Cemetery, Fort Dodge. When he was five years old his parents, Thomas and Mary (Mullins) Wright, removed with their family to near Lisbon, Kendall County, Illinois, crossing the Atlantic in a perilous trip in a sailing vessel. Three years later they removed to a farm in

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