

Robert Mullins Wright

ISSN 0003-4827

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Recommended Citation

"Robert Mullins Wright." *The Annals of Iowa* 18 (1931), 153-154.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.5508>

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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

De Kalb County, Illinois. Robert attended common school, and was graduated from the University of Michigan with the degree of A. B. in 1871 and of A. M. in 1874. During this period of his life he varied his college work with labor on farms and with school-teaching, being for four years principal of Fort Wayne, Indiana, High School. In the meantime he had been studying law, and in 1876 removed to Fort Dodge, Iowa, and began practice. This he pursued with success. In 1881 he was elected representative and was again elected to that office in 1903, thus serving in the Nineteenth and the Thirtieth and Thirty-first general assemblies. Prohibition and woman suffrage were two subjects which received his ardent support in his legislative service. He led in the enactment of the drainage laws in his two later sessions. In 1906 he was elected a judge of the Eleventh Judicial District. Re-elections followed, and he served until January 1, 1923. His work as lawyer, legislator and judge was creditable to himself and useful to his community and state.

CHARLES L. LONGLEY was born in Franklin County, Massachusetts, May 27, 1843, and died in Boise, Idaho, November 27, 1930. Burial was at Twin Falls, Idaho. His parents, Alfred and Julia Read Longley, removed their family during Charles' infancy to Medina County, Ohio, and later to the city of Oberlin. In 1854 the mother, then a widow, removed with her son to Tipton, Iowa. He secured his more advanced education in Tipton High School and in Cornell College, where he took two years in the liberal arts course, and in 1866 he took a course in a business college in Davenport. He volunteered in Company C, Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry, August 6, 1862, and was mustered out at Savannah, Georgia, July 17, 1865. From 1867 until 1889 he was editor of the *Tipton Advertiser*, and became known as an able newspaper writer. In 1889 he removed to Cedar Rapids and in 1891 to Waterloo. From 1890 to 1892 he was assistant adjutant general, Department of Iowa, Grand Army of the Republic. For four years he was secretary of the Waterloo Paper Manufacturing Company. From 1895 to 1897 he was quartermaster at the Iowa Soldiers Home, Marshalltown. In 1898 he was made secretary to the Board of Park Commissioners of the United States Military Park at Vicksburg, Mississippi, where for some years he rendered service in the development of that noted place. In 1916 he removed to Twin Falls, Idaho, and spent two years in newspaper work in that city. In 1918 he was appointed manager of the United States Assay office at Boise, in which position he remained until his death.

HENRY OTIS PRATT was born in Foxcraft, Maine, February 11, 1838, and died in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 22, 1931. Burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Cedar Rapids. He attended common school, Foxcraft Academy, and was graduated from the Law Department of Harvard University. He removed to Iowa in 1862, was admitted to the bar at

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