

## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

### DOUGLAS H. CAMPBELL (1859 - 1952)

On January 23rd of this year died Dr. Douglas Houghton Campbell, the last surviving link between the present and the founding days of the University, and a member of the "Old Guard," the first faculty of Stanford.

Dr. Campbell was born in Detroit, Michigan on December 16, 1859, thus being at the time of his death slightly more than 93 years old. He had been retired from the service of the University for more than 28 years, during which time he maintained his residence on the campus. He came to Stanford for the opening of the University in 1891, so that his connection with this institution spanned more than 62 years.

He graduated from the University of Michigan with the degree of Ph.M. in 1882. He received the degree of Ph.D. from the same university in 1886. In 1932 his achievements in his chosen field of Botany were recognized by the same university with the award of the honorary degree of LL.D. He taught Biology in the Detroit High School during the period from 1882 to 1886. From 1886 to 1888 he spent two years at the Universities of Bonn, Tübingen and Berlin. From 1888 until 1891 he was Professor of Botany at the University of Indiana from whence Dr. Jordan came to the presidency of Stanford University, bringing with him Dr. Campbell as one of the group of men composing the first faculty, every one of whom achieved distinction in his chosen field. He was head of the Department of Botany here until his retirement in 1925. He never married.

Dr. Campbell was a botanist whose interests were directed especially to the study of mosses and ferns and their relatives. An estimate of his work, prepared by Dr. William C. Steere of Stanford, is as follows:

"Douglas Houghton Campbell, inspired by Hofmeister's great studies on the higher cryptogams, and himself gifted with an inexhaustible research drive, became the leading American plant morphologist while still very young and maintained this position for a half century. His pioneer work, Mosses and Ferns, published in 1895, was based primarily on the material he found in the Stanford University region when he assumed the chair of Botany here. This book, still used as a text, although it was really a report upon his original research, established his lasting reputation as a plant morphologist, a reputation that was enhanced by his later work. In his application of modern methods to the investigation of problems involving the structure, development, reproduction, and evolution of mosses and ferns, Campbell showed great imagination and was widely followed both in this country and abroad. His researches on the broader aspects of morphology, including plant distribution and evolution, are still of importance in their influence upon current botanical thought. Inspection of any modern textbook of botany will reveal a very considerable dependence on and reference to the investigations of the greatest of American plant morphologists, D. H. Campbell."

In addition to the book just mentioned he was the author of other texts, including Elements of Structural and Systematic Botany, published in 1890, and A University Textbook of

Botany in 1902, and of many technical papers. His last book, Evolution in the Land Plants, was published in 1940.

Dr. Campbell was elected to the National Academy of Science and the American Philosophical Society, honors which are very sparingly distributed. He was a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and was a member of various other scientific societies in this country and abroad.

One who knew him personally cannot forbear to mention his abilities as a watercolorist. In his various travels about the world he kept a record composed of quick, but charming, watercolor sketches of objects and places that especially interested him, although he seems never especially to have cultivated the abilities displayed by these sketches.

Douglas Campbell has been a familiar and beloved figure on the Stanford campus for many years. He will be remembered for his thoughtfulness and sympathetic understanding, for his Old World courtliness, for his charming stories of his many travels, his good humor and sense of proportion, and above all for his great dignity of person coupled with a sincerity that won respect from students and colleagues alike. With his passing we say our last goodbyes to the pioneer faculty of Stanford University, the Old Guard.

G. F. Ferris  
J. G. Emerson  
Richard W. Holm