William Edward Story (1850-1930)
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While Smith in his early writings published some short articles and abstracts on fungi, he cannot be considered the leader in this line of work. Two of his largest and best publications are "Wilt Diseases of Cotton, Watermelon and Cowpea," and "Dry Rot of Potatoes due to *Fusarium oxysporum*," both U. S. bulletins.

It is as an investigator of bacteria, as the cause of plant diseases, that Erwin F. Smith made his reputation. While Burrill may be called the discoverer of bacteria as the cause of plant diseases, Smith should be known as the one who placed this phase of Bacteriology on a firm, safe basis. This is assured by his numerous articles on a great variety of bacterial diseases, too numerous to be mentioned here, as well as by his victory over Fischer in the noted discussion as to whether bacteria were the primary cause of certain diseases of plants. The final evidence is shown in his three-volume work, of nearly one thousand pages, entitled "Bacteria in Relation to Plant Diseases," as well as by his text-book, of nearly seven hundred pages, called "Bacterial Diseases of Plants," both copiously illustrated with drawings and photographs.

G. P. CLINTON.

WILLIAM EDWARD STORY (1850–1930)

Fellow in Class I, Section 1, 1876

William E. Story was born in Boston on April 29, 1850, the son of Isaac and Elizabeth Story. He did distinguished and important work in several of the most recondite departments of pure mathematics, and was one of the pioneers in the establishment of high standards of mathematical research and mathematical education in the universities of this country. He graduated as A.B. at Harvard University in 1871, and was Parker Fellow there in 1874–75; from 1871 to 1875, he pursued mathematical studies at the Universities of Berlin and Leipzig, receiving the degree of Ph.D. at Leipzig in 1875; in 1875–76 he was Tutor in Mathematics at Harvard. Upon the opening of Johns Hopkins University in 1876, Story was appointed Associate (and shortly after Assistant Professor and Associate Professor) in Mathematics. In this capacity, he was the chief representative at Johns Hopkins of the methods and ideals of modern higher mathematics as cultivated in the universities of Continental Europe; for

Sylvester, though a great mathematical genius, and a most inspiring personality, was quite unfamiliar with the mighty advances that were being made by the mathematicians of Germany, France and Italy.

It was at Johns Hopkins that the first impulse was given to any systematic development of mathematical research in this country; and when Clark University was opened in 1889, its President, Stanley Hall, invited Story to be the head of its mathematical department, with a view to carrying out, in an even more intensive way, the purposes which animated the mathematical faculty at Johns Hopkins. How faithfully and enthusiastically Story devoted himself to this task may be seen from the Report on the first ten years of the Department of Mathematics in the Decennial Celebration volume issued by Clark University in 1899—a Report which, though written by Story, gives more generous space to the researches of the Assistant Professor, Henry Taber, than to his own. How extensive and varied, as well as profound, were Story's researches, may be seen from a glance at the titles of his numerous papers; the mention of a few of them must here suffice:

On the Theory of Rational Derivation on a Cubic Curve (Amer. Jour. of Math., 1880)

On the Non-Euclidean Geometry (Ibid., 1882)

A New Method in Analytic Geometry (Ibid., 1887)

On the Covariants of a System of Quantics (Mathematische Annalen, 1893)

New General Theory of Errors (Proc. Amer. Acad. of Arts and Sci., 1904)

Partial Pressures in Liquid Mixtures (Philos. Magazine, 1910).

Mention of the last-named paper is a reminder that Story, though chiefly interested in the problems of pure mathematics, was also interested in its application to physics. He also took a deep interest in the history of mathematics; and it may be added that he had a somewhat unusual penchant for puzzles which are interesting from a mathematical point of view.

As regards the training of students of the higher mathematics, and the bearing of that training upon the advancement of other sciences, Story states his views in the Clark Decennial volume, in a most vigorous and effective way; we see that, but for the want of means, what he would have built up at Clark University would have been

just such an institution as is now being developed at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, with Einstein as head of the department of mathematics.

Story was editor in charge of the American Journal of Mathematics from 1878 to 1882, editor of the Mathematical Review, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences. He was head of the Department of Mathematics at Clark University from its foundation until he retired as Emeritus Professor in 1921. He was happy in his marriage as in his work; his wife, whom he married in 1878, was Miss Mary D. Harrison of Baltimore. She and their only child, William E. Story, Jr., survive him. He died of pneumonia, after a very brief illness, April 10, 1930, having fulfilled, throughout a long life, the ideals of a devoted teacher and a single-minded lover of scientific truth and progress.

FABIAN FRANKLIN.

HENRY PAUL TALBOT (1864–1927)

Fellow in Class I, Section 3, 1899

Henry Paul Talbot was born in Boston, May 15, 1864, son of Zephaniah and Eliza Frances (Paul) Talbot. The family tradition has it that the Talbots were originally French, but came to England with William the Conqueror. At all events, they were among the earliest to settle in Massachusetts. Chief Justice Cushing, a friend of George Washington, and Commodore Silas Talbot are among the distinguished ancestors. Henry Talbot's father was in the United States Navy for many years, but resigned and became an industrialist, locating in Holliston, Massachusetts, where he owned a blanket mill and a tack factory. The mother was of Scottish parentage.

Henry Talbot grew up in Holliston and Boston. He graduated from the Holliston High School in 1881, and in September of that year he entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with which Institution he was identified throughout the remainder of his life. He graduated from the course in Chemistry with the degree of S.B. in 1885, and was immediately taken upon the staff where he served as assistant and instructor for three years. The following two years were devoted to study at Leipzig where he obtained the degree of Ph.D. *summa cum laude* in 1890. He majored in Organic Chemistry under Wislicenus, and he took courses under Ostwald in the then new field