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The Faculty

DEAN DOUGLAS BOARDMAN was born in the town of Covert, County of Seneca, on the 31st day of October, 1822, the youngest of twelve children. He early sought an education which might fit him for a professional life. In a private school of his native town and afterward in the Academy at Ovid, N. Y., he prepared for a collegiate course, and after three years of study in Hobart College at Geneva, he entered the senior class at Yale and graduated from that institution in 1842. He immediately began the study of law and was admitted to the bar after the usual period of preparation. In 1846 he married. He held the office of District Attorney of the County of Tompkins from 1848 to 1851, and of County Judge and Surrogate from 1852 to 1856. In both positions he displayed unusual ability, and met his duties and responsibilities with an unflagging industry and a promptness and accuracy which characterized his whole life. At the close of his term as County Judge he formed a partnership with the writer of this memorial which lasted for ten years, and until Judge Boardman was called to the bench of the Supreme Court.

In 1865 Judge Boardman was elected a justice of the Supreme Court for the sixth district to serve for a term of eight years. The new judge found in his work the arena best suited for his development and success. Pleasant but firm, cheerful but in earnest, patient but determined, prompt but careful and prudent, and always thoroughly impartial and striving only for exact justice, he so won the confidence of the bar and of the people, that at the close of his term he was re-elected for a new term of fourteen years without an antagonist and practically by a unanimous vote. His judicial ability was at that time so well understood and appreciated that he was at once assigned to the General Term of the third department, and so passed from the trial court to an appellate tribunal. Undoubtedly Judge Boardman preferred the variety and mental excitement of the circuit, where point and decision follow each other swiftly to the slower and more studious labors of the appellate court, but he soon demonstrated that there also he was in his proper place, and fully equipped for his new duties and responsibilities. His opinions were almost without exception terse, with no waste of words and little elaboration of argument, but marked always by the strong good sense and sound judgment which were his chief characteristics. And so his life and his work ran on until 1887 when his term expired. He might have been again chosen for the five years remaining before reaching the age of seventy,

but resolutely declined, saying that he needed rest, and was entitled to it after twenty-six years of judicial labor. But rest, with him, meant only change of occupation to duties less exacting and laborious, but still requiring the exercise of all his ability and discretion.

He possessed in an unusual degree the qualities of a thorough business man. In the management of his own affairs he was systematic, thrifty and prudent; averse to anything like waste or extravagance, and inclined to a plain and simple life.

Judge Boardman was a director of the First National Bank of Ithaca from its organization, in 1864, to the time of his death, and became its president, succeeding in that office the Hon. J. B. Williams in 1884. He became a trustee of Cornell University by vote of the alumni in 1875, and was re-elected by the trustees in 1885. Upon the organization of the law school of the university, he was appointed its dean and became active and efficient in promoting its success.

In all these positions his business sagacity and prudence were of great value to the interests which he served. In the investment and management of the large endowment of the university and the appropriation and administration of its income, in the care of the bank and a watchful oversight of its finances, in the control of the estates committed to his trust, he found heavy burdens and large responsibilities which were borne with far more than the usual ability. To these duties it was a pleasure to him to add his governing aid to the law school and his advice in its management, always thoughtful and wise. Though he took but a moderate part in the routine of instruction, what he did was like all that he did, thorough and accurate and sound. And so in these labors his days were usefully spent after the close of his judicial career.

It was a busy, a useful, and a valuable life the outline of which has thus been sketched. Judge Boardman died at his country house at Sheldrake on Cayuga Lake, September 5, 1891.¹

DEAN FRANCIS MILES FINCH was born in Ithaca, June 9, 1827, and there, until his death on July 30, 1907, at the age of eighty, his whole life was passed, except for the period of his student days at Yale whence he graduated in 1849, and the absence required by his duties at Albany as a member of the Court of Appeals. From the time of his graduation from college until he reached the age of 53, his life was that of the highest type of the country lawyer, in a prosperous and intelligent community. His clients and friends were his neigh-

¹From a Memorial by Francis M. Finch.

bors, the plain sturdy people of the thoroughly American village of that day, and of the surrounding farms. The profession of law had not yet become commercialized and specialized, as it is to so large an extent at present. The lawyer trained in the older school of general practice under the earlier conditions in a rural community, if he were studious and energetic, acquired a varied experience which touched the law at every point; he attained a grasp of a case in all its bearings, and a ready skill in the art of conducting litigation. In such an environment and under such influences Judge Finch spent his 30 years as practitioner at the bar, and when in 1880 he was called to the bench of the highest court in the state, he was equipped for the varied and difficult duties of his great office. He knew the law and the practice of it; he knew men and their motives. His legal reputation had theretofore been confined to his own locality; it very soon extended to the boundaries of the state and beyond.

For fifteen and a half years—from June 1, 1880, to December 31, 1895—he sat as a member of the court of last resort in the most populous and wealthiest English-speaking commonwealth outside of England herself. Aside from the House of Lords and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in England, and the Supreme Court of the United States, no court of last resort administering the common law affects by its decisions so many individuals or such a range and extent of interests as does the Court of Appeals of the State of New York. Probably over 8,000 cases were argued before the court during the period that Judge Fitch sat upon the bench. While he participated in the decision of most of these, upward of 1,150 were especially assigned to him for the formulation of the opinions. In these cases he wrote over 750 opinions, the remaining 400 cases being decided upon his advice without opinions. His opinions, scattered along the highway of our law from volume 81 to volume 148 of the reports of our Court of Appeals, are sound in their substance of law and common sense; and their substance is garbed in a virile and graceful style with unerring propriety of diction. It is not too much to say that upon all the varied questions dealt with in his opinions, he has refreshed and invigorated the law. Whether it be in an opinion denouncing a recreant attorney; or stripping the mask of separate fictional identity from a corporation in order to get at the law-breaking men behind it; or letting light into the semi-feudal darkness of the farthest recesses of the law of real property; or restoring order out of the chaos of conflicting cases on the construction of the statute of frauds; or whatever the argument be, Judge Finch reveals the highest attributes of a wise and righteous magistrate. He had the sympathetic heart and clear head to appreciate the true

equities of the case; the legal learning and sound logic to reach the proper rule or principle applicable to the case; and powers of expression that leave no chance of doubt as to the conclusion of the court and the reasons for that conclusion.

Judge Gray, an associate of Judge Finch in his labors in that court, wrote of him upon the occasion of Judge Finch's seventy-fifth birthday:

"It would be a grateful task to speak of his great talents as a jurist, and those admirable and gentle personal traits which endeared him to all who were privileged with his friendship. As Judge, his opinions were conspicuous for the conclusiveness and clearness of their reasoning and they are among the most valuable of those which have given repute to the reports of this court. Remarkable for their purity of English and elegance of composition, they lack nothing in force or logic. Their discussion of questions was characterized by a breadth of thought and by a grasp of the arguments for and against which satisfied the bar. His associates in the court found him wise, firm and helpful in consultation, and they found him lovable in daily intercourse."

Judge Finch was the closest personal friend and legal advisor of Ezra Cornell. In 1868 while Mr. Cornell was in the West locating university lands, and President White was in Europe inspecting foreign universities, Judge Finch was their representative at the university. Later it was his plan which saved the university from the disaster that generally followed the great financial panic of 1873. Directly or indirectly his wise counsel was, until his last days, at the service of the university. President White in his Autobiography, a veritable gallery of portraits of his great contemporaries, writes that Judge Finch was, "a man of noble character, of wonderfully varied gifts, an admirable legal advisor, devoted personally to Mr. Cornell and none the less devoted to the university."

And to these attributes of quiet sagacity in the practical affairs of the world, profound knowledge of the law, intimacy with the best in the world's literature, was added the rare endowment of poetic inspiration. Two of his lyrics have become an imperishable part of the American anthology. His deep feeling compassed both the martial swing of his "Nathan Hale," and the tender poetic melody of "The Blue and the Gray," whose cadences evoked with potent influence the spirit of conciliation in North and South. To Yale he gave her Alumni Song and the Smoking Song which has been sung by generations of Yale men in the glow of student fellowship. To Cornell he contributed The Founder's Hymn and The Chimes.

But what of the Judge, as dean,—the venerable, beloved friend of

his students? What had "my boys," as he affectionately referred to them, to say of him? After they listened to his course of Talks on the Trial and Preparation of Causes, they were heard to exclaim in the enthusiastic parlance of the undergraduate, "He is simply great!" One who has listened to these friendly talks understands what is meant by this student comment. Sage advice and technical learning enriched by quiet humor or lively wit, enforced by felicitous anecdote and literary allusion; the fruitful experiences of a long professional career, together with the results of wide acquaintance with the best in our life and literature were spread before the students, to their profit and delight. These talks contained no direct prosy preaching of legal ethics. but implicit everywhere in them were the highest ideals of professional conduct. Reference is made to this course particularly because to our students it will recall more vividly than all else the personality of Judge Finch.

The feelings entertained toward their immediate chief by the members of the law faculty were those of veneration and affection. In the meetings of the law faculty his easy dignity, sympathy and sagacity won the unwavering devotion of his associates. His death has not banished his spirit from our counsels.

Edwin H. Woodruff.

ERNEST WILSON HUFFCUT, the third Dean of the law school, was a member of the first class upon which, in 1888, the university conferred the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He had previously received the degree of Bachelor of Science from Cornell in 1884. Dean Huffcut was born at Kent, Connecticut, November 20, 1860. He was prepared for college at the Union School in Afton, N. Y., and entered Cornell in 1880. For a year after graduation he was secretary to President White. During the years 1885-1888 he was an instructor in English in the university. After graduation from the law school he went to Minnesota where he practiced law for two years. In 1890, Dr. David Starr Jordan, then President of Indiana University, called him to the law faculty of that institution. During the year 1892-1893 he was a member of the faculty of the Northwestern University Law School in Chicago. From there he returned to his Alma Mater in the fall of 1893. He soon became and remained, until his untimely death in May, 1907, the most important factor in the life of the Cornell law school. His deanship covered the years 1905-1907.

Let us entrust the appreciation of his high character and brilliant mentality to a symposium in which is gathered one of his own students, who has since become distinguished as a teacher of law, and



MEMBERS OF THE PRESENT FACULTY

C. T. STAGG

CHARLES K. BURDICK



some of Dean Huffcut's other friends who have worked in the same field of endeavor.—E. H. W.

No one who studied law under Professor Huffcut doubts that he was one of the most remarkable teachers of his generation. He possessed, in full measure, the aptitude for vicariousness, the intellectual wealth, the power of vital transmission and the willingness to be forgotten, which a high authority has recently declared to be the essentials of a teacher's success. And added to these he had the qualities of heart that make a great teacher beloved by those who sit at his feet, that make them feel, in after years, that what they learned is not so important as that they studied with him.

But it is of his service to the legal profession at large that I am asked particularly to write—a service which, it may be, is not so fully appreciated. Aside from the immeasurable influence exerted through hundreds of former students who bear the imprint of his inspiring personality, Professor Huffcut served the profession chiefly by his contributions to legal literature and by his advocacy of higher standards and advanced methods of legal education.

His books comprise a treatise on the law of Agency; a work on the law of Negotiable Instruments; an annotation for the use of American students and practitioners of Anson's Principles of Contract; collections of selected cases in Agency and Contracts (the latter in collaboration with Professor Woodruff); a book on the Elements of Business Law; and numerous contributions to legal periodicals. The comprehensive and illuminating notes in his edition of Anson, with the citation of carefully selected American cases, have made that admirable treatise as useful in America as it is in England. The work on Negotiable Instruments has greatly assisted the profession in learning the effect of the Uniform Negotiable Instruments Law which within recent years has been so generally adopted. His Elements of Business Law is probably the most widely used work on that subject in the schools and colleges. It is a marvel of condensation, accuracy and clearness. But the treatise on Agency is undoubtedly the best known and most widely admired of his works. The precision of thought, the nice sense of proportion, the lucidity of style, which marked everything that he said or wrote, are here exhibited at their best. In reviewing the book, the *Harvard Law Review* said: "Many doctrines in the law of Agency are vague and ill-defined, and it is a delight to find an author who in setting forth those doctrines is clear and explicit without allowing himself to yield to the scholar's enthusiasm of indulging in metaphysics." A

great legal scholar has frequently declared it to be "the ideal treatise for the student's use." It has been a model for other writers.

Professor Huffcut's service to the profession at large in the cause of legal education was performed chiefly through his participation in the work of the American Bar Association's Section on Legal Education, and of the Association of American Law Schools. These two organizations, as every lawyer knows, have effected a tremendous advance in standards of legal education. In both of them he was a conspicuous leader, faithful in attendance at the annual meetings, energetic in committee work, convincing in discussions on the floor. In 1901-2 he was chairman of the Section on Legal Education; from 1901 until 1903 he was Secretary-Treasurer, and in 1903-4, President of the Association of American Law Schools. The clearness of vision and breadth of view which characterized his participation in the work of these associations, together with the singular charm of the man, gave him a large influence—an influence which was frequently exerted with telling effect. By those who labored with him in both organizations, his loss is most poignantly regretted.

We who were at the law school in the early nineties well remember the regret with which we saw Professor Hughes return to his practice in New York. We recognized in him the elements of greatness; we felt favored of fortune if we had been permitted to study under his guidance for a single year; we were satisfied that there never would be such another. Imagine, then, our surprise and delight, when we discovered that his successor was likewise a man of genius,—a brilliant orator, a profound lawyer, a strong and gentle-hearted man. In him, as in Professor Hughes, was easily recognized the capacity for high service, not only to the university, but to the profession and to the State. Our confidence was more than justified. For sadly unfinished as his service seems, it was performed faithfully and well. Widespread and benign are the results of his labor; deeply cherished are the memories of his friendship in the grateful hearts of those who loved him.—*Frederic C. Woodward, LL.B. '94, Professor in the University of Chicago Law School.*

It was my good fortune to attend one of the lectures of Dean Huffcut at the Cornell Law School. He impressed me at once as having the teacher's gift in a very high degree. He stimulated his class by his interesting way of putting questions and exciting discussion, and his summing up of the results of the discussion was marked by clearness and force. He had a rare power of exposition.

His services to legal education were not confined to the class-room. At the meetings of the Section on Legal Education of the American

Bar Association and of the Association of American Law Schools he was one of the most useful and influential members. He had already made several contributions to legal literature, and we looked for many years of distinguished service by him as a teacher, and counsellor in matters of legal education. His death was a most serious loss.—*James Barr Ames, late Dean of Harvard University Law School.*

Had he but felt with more keenness how much his profession wanted him to live on—how much to them his past had promised for his future—how great a void is now left in the sphere where he moved so fraternally—could he but have had some one in those latest moments to press upon him the claims of the rest of us to a continuance of his useful and genial fellowship, he could hardly have consummated the resolve to leave us. It is not for us now, perhaps, to estimate in cold phrases the measure of his contribution to the sum of professional activity and progress. Nor does it matter to those who knew him. To lose him is something which stifles reflection upon the loss. Among the personal forces which count as marked units of leadership in the movement of the profession he stood as one of a small company, national in influence. From the formation of the Association of American Law Schools, "his voice did count as much as any man's in the disposal of new policies." From Cornell to Indiana, from Indiana to Northwestern, and from Northwestern to Cornell once more, his everwidening circle of experience and friendship created new spheres of influence and trust; and each year paid tributes to his unique union of talents,—of affection with moral independence, of originality with tact, of scholarship with eloquence.—*John H. Wigmore, Dean of Northwestern University Law School.*

The services that Dean Huffcut rendered to his profession were as varied as his own versatile intelligence. For nearly seventeen years Professor Huffcut exercised a substantial influence upon legal education as teacher, writer, and administrator. His small book upon Agency is one of the best students' text-books ever published. He was closely identified with the organized efforts to raise the standards of professional training in law in this country. In 1902 he was chairman of the Section on Legal Education of the American Bar Association, and in 1904 president of the Association of American Law Schools, the two bodies foremost in this endeavor. In addition to his law school work he kept in close touch with the active professional life of the New York Bar, and in 1905, as chairman of the committee on grievances of the State Bar Association, he rendered an important

public service in the interest of proper standards of judicial conduct by the part he took in considering the charges against Judge Hooker of the Supreme Court. Of the work of the last months of his life, as legal adviser to Governor Higgins and Governor Hughes, others speak from a fuller knowledge, but there seems little doubt that the Public Utilities act, one of the most important pieces of constructive legislation passed by a state legislature in recent years, will be a worthy monument to Dean Huffcut's care and skill in its drafting, and to the patience and lucidity with which he explained and defended it in committee.—*James Parker Hall, Dean of the University of Chicago Law School.*

Ernest Wilson Huffcut was pre-eminently a Cornell man. He did not drift here. He was not sent here. Cornell was the college of his choice. He entered just as he came of age, and of the twenty-six years of his majority he passed twenty-one as a member of the University. Few men have touched the life of Cornell at more points. An editor of the *Era* and of the *Review*, a Woodford speaker, and a commencement orator, president of the Cornell Congress and of the Athletic Council, secretary to the first President, instructor in English, and professor of law, discriminating historian of the university and first of her alumni to become dean of a college, he showed himself always gladly loyal to alma mater, always adequate to the increasing burdens which she laid upon him. But his interests were never bounded by the immediate duties of his position. In happy exemplification of the ideals of President White, his mentor and life-long friend, he freely devoted his powers of mind and pen to public service. The prevailing opinion of the Supreme Court in the pregnant Insular Cases was largely shaped—as existing evidence clearly shows—by his published argument. But it is, after all, his influence within the University that we chiefly miss, an influence that made always for clear thinking, for a high standard of personal and professional conduct, for conscious and persistent pursuit of the intellectual life.—*Charles Henry Hull, Professor of American History, Cornell University.*

Possessed of logical understanding of his theme, rare eloquence and perfect clarity of expression, a large intellectual and social sympathy, and a dominant instinct for progressive action, he was accorded a foremost place by his fellow workers in the field of legal education in this country. These same attributes won for him a like regard in the deliberations of this faculty and its committee and in his relations with alumni and student organizations. His spirit of devoted service



NON RESIDENT LECTURERS

JUDGE ALFRED C. COXE
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JUDGE HARRINGTON PUTNAM
JAMES W. PERSONS



long and involved written or type-written records and bills of exceptions which were often very carelessly prepared. Judicial service of the first order under such adverse conditions was indeed an achievement. As in so many of our jurisdictions, a practice prevailed and still prevails in Nebraska, whereby the court is compelled to do the work of the reporter. The statement of the case and even the writing of the headnotes devolves upon the judge who writes the opinion. Judge Irvine's headnotes are models of correct and concise statements of the points of law involved in his opinions. Moreover, the statements of the case in his opinions are worthy of the best common-law reporters. Turning to the opinions themselves, they will be found to be brief and clear while at the same time learned and thorough. The reader can always tell exactly what Judge Irvine's opinions mean and how and why he reached his results. It was always a pleasure to conduct an argument before the commission while Judge Irvine was upon the bench. He was an attentive listener. He asked questions to aid and develop the argument of counsel, but was patient and considerate towards beginners whom his question might embarrass. Those who argued many cases before the tribunal appreciated particularly the few searching questions with which he would at once turn the argument toward the real points in the controversy."

In 1901 Judge Irvine accepted a call to the professorship of practice and procedure in the Cornell University College of Law, he having previously been a lecturer in the Nebraska Law School, while a member of the Supreme Court. In 1907, upon the death of Dean Huffcut, he was appointed dean of the faculty a position which he held down to the time of his resignation in 1916.

In March, 1914, Judge Irvine was appointed a member of the Public Service Commission of the State of New York, Second District, to fill a vacancy. He was granted leave of absence from his duties in the College of Law. His term of office under Governor Glynn's appointment expired on January 31, 1916. Judge Irvine's fitness and special qualifications for the office of public service commissioner had been so clearly demonstrated during his two years of service, and the demand throughout the state for his reappointment became so urgent, that in March, 1916, his name was again submitted to the Senate by Governor Whitman, and his appointment for a full term of five years was confirmed without opposition. The action of the Governor and of the Senate in thus recognizing one of opposite political faith is a striking tribute to Judge Irvine's sterling qualities as a man and a just recognition of the efficient service he has rendered to the state.

As the administrative officer of the College of Law, Dean Irvine had the confidence of his colleagues. More and more were they inclined to throw upon him the burden of making the final decision in matters which vitally affected the interests of the College of Law. His experience as a lawyer, trial judge, appellate judge and teacher of law made him the ideal head of a college of law. His sound common sense and knowledge of human nature made his part in university administration a most useful one.

As a teacher, Judge Irvine has had the sincere admiration of his students. His exposition of difficult questions of pleading, procedure and evidence has been distinguished for its clarity, accuracy and wealth of illustration. But it is as a big broadminded man that he has made a special appeal to all young men who have come in contact with him, or who have known him only through his willingness to give his time and effort to undergraduate affairs. This willingness, together with his unusual faculty of seeing things from the undergraduate point of view, have endeared him each year to the great body of students, and it is not surprising to find that this undergraduate sentiment should find editorial expression in the *Cornell Sun*: "Among faculty and undergraduates, in the class room, or in the athletic council, he is respected and loved. He is one of the biggest of the 'big men' of the University, and it is with sincere, if selfish, regret that we learned of his appointment and decision to accept, and realize that we must bid him good-bye."

His intimate and accurate knowledge of the various branches of the law has excited the wonder and admiration of all who have had the opportunity to present to him a legal proposition. His is not a mere book knowledge of the law, a superficial familiarity with the rules of thumb with which any may become acquainted; but rather his legal knowledge is a full conception and appreciation of those fundamental principles upon which are based the multiplicity of rules by which the law seeks to control human activity. Not that he is unfamiliar with these rules—for he has a prodigious memory for details—but as a lawyer he knows and values the "why" of the rule, and thus has little difficulty in recognizing and properly applying it.

Judge Irvine's activities during his connection with Cornell University were not confined to local interests. For several years he served upon the committee of the American Bar Association to suggest remedies to prevent delay and unnecessary expense in litigation. The efforts of this committee have been very effective in accomplishing important judicial reforms.

Upon Dean Irvine's resignation the Board of Trustees, in expressing

its appreciation of his services to Cornell, said: "After twenty years of varied and highly effective labors at the Bar and upon the Bench, he returned to his Alma Mater and became a member of the Law Faculty. For nearly fifteen years he has been a wise and learned teacher of law; for more than half of that period he has performed the duties of head of his College with a quiet and impressive strength, mingled with a geniality, which has won the respect and admiration of all members of the College of Law. Nor do we forget his unobtrusive but potent influence in many other affairs connected with the life of the University. His counsels have been frequently sought beyond the walls of Boardman Hall, by undergraduates and by his colleagues in the University Faculty; and his sagacity and foresight have guided many of the activities of our university life."¹

BINGHAM, JOSEPH WALTER. A.B. 1902 (University of Chicago), J.D. 1904 (University of Chicago). During the sabbatical leave of Professor William Finch, 1905-06, Mr. Bingham was acting assistant professor of Law. In 1906-07, during the sabbatical half year absence of Professor Woodruff in the first term and Dean Huffcut in the second term, he held the same position. He is now professor of law at Leland Stanford, Jr., University.

BURDICK, FRANCIS MARION. A.B., 1869 (Hamilton); LL.B. 1872 (Hamilton). Mr. Burdick was born at De Ruyter, N. Y., in 1845. From the time of his graduation at Hamilton until 1883 he was engaged in the practice of law at Utica, and at one time was mayor of the city. He was professor of law and history at Hamilton from 1882 until 1887. At the opening of the Cornell law school in 1887 Mr. Burdick became a member of the first faculty and remained until 1891. In that year he was called to Columbia as Dwight Professor of Law. This professorship he held for twenty-five years, retiring in 1916. Although Professor Burdick was a member of the Cornell law faculty only four years, he left his impress upon the school. It was he who introduced at Cornell the case book as a method of study. Free, as Professor Hutchins was not, from the new administrative problems of the pioneering years, Professor Burdick was able to devote himself exclusively to the work of the class room; and in the inadequate quarters and the small library he worked energetically with a quiet confidence and a smooth and consistent activity that created the impression that the school was no new venture. The most striking feature of his instruction was, as it seemed

¹From an editorial contributed to THE CORNELL LAW QUARTERLY for May, 1917, by Professor C. T. Stagg.

to his students, a mysterious gift of quickly and clearly analyzing a complicated hypothetical question, resolving it into its essential facts and easily applying the fitting principles. His knowledge of the fundamental principles of the common law seemed perfect; his proficiency in legal reasoning by applying them, with their reactions one upon another, as they were involved in the facts, excited a despairing admiration. One saw in such excellence the ideal to be attained. He established a very high standard indeed. And it was all done modestly, gently, insistently,—not to display his intellectual prowess, but simply to serve his students. He seemed frail, but none the less since those days he has taught for twenty-five years in the Columbia Law School, making a total of thirty-three years given to the work of legal education. Full of honors and with the veneration and affection of all his former students he retired from teaching in 1916, at the age of seventy. But not to rest; his pen is busy, as ever, upon the revision of his books or in contributing articles to the leading law periodicals. He still seems frail, but his step has the spring of thirty years ago and his mind shows no weariness with the more than three score years and ten. By happy circumstance his interest in Cornell has found a new attachment in the fact that his son, Charles K. Burdick, holds a professorship in the Cornell law school.

COLLIN, CHARLES AVERY. A.B. 1866 (Yale). Mr. Collin was admitted to the bar in 1870 and practiced in Elmira, N. Y. from that time until 1887. From 1887 to 1895, he was professor of law at Cornell. Since 1895, he has been engaged in practice in New York City. Professor Collin has been a man of varied interests. He was legal counsel to both Governor Hill and Governor Flower of New York. During the period of his professorship he was a member of the State Statutory Revision Commission and was later a member of the State Board of Statutory Consolidation. His adroit mastery of the intricacies of statutory law and construction was displayed in the class room. His avocation was participation in the work of social reform, in the field of charities and corrections. For some years while a member of the law faculty he conducted a class in practical ethics in the Elmira Reformatory. As a member of the law faculty his students recall his helpfulness, easy familiarity, and his great capacity for work.

COLSON, FREDERICK DIAMOND. B.L. 1897 (Cornell), LL.B. 1898 (Cornell). In 1899, Mr. Colson was appointed assistant in procedure, under Professor Redfield, who was in charge of that

subject. From 1901 until 1908, he served as instructor in procedure, resigning in 1908 to become State Law Librarian at Albany. He later became Clerk of the New York State Court of Claims and still holds that office.

DREW, WILLIAM LINCOLN. B.S. 1889 (University of Iowa), LL.B. 1892 (University of Iowa). After doing graduate work at the Harvard law school, Mr. Drew practiced law in Omaha, Neb., from 1893 until 1896, when he became assistant professor of law in the University of Wisconsin. In 1898, he was appointed professor of law at the University of Illinois, where he remained until he came to Cornell in 1904. Professor Drew was a member of the Cornell law faculty for ten years, retiring in 1914, to make his home at Winter Haven, Florida. His teaching was conscientious and effective, and followed closely the tradition of the Harvard school.

EDGERTON, HENRY WHITE. A.B. 1910 (Cornell), LL.B. 1914 (Harvard). During the sabbatical leave of Professor Hayes in 1916-17, Mr. Edgerton was acting assistant professor. The following year he was made assistant professor. In the fall of 1918 he returned to practice in Boston.

FINCH, WILLIAM ALBERT. A.B. (Cornell), 1880. Professor Finch was born at Newark, N. J., in 1855. While a student at Cornell he studied law in the office of Judge Francis M. Finch and was admitted to the Bar in the year of his graduation from the university. From that time he practiced law in Ithaca until, in 1891, he was appointed to the law school faculty as assistant professor. After one year he was promoted to associate professor. From 1895 until his death in 1912, he held a full professorship. He was secretary of the law faculty and its administrative officer from 1895 to 1901. To estimate the worth of his character and work is a pleasant theme. It is rare to find a man occupying a position of any influence who is not controlled to some extent, covert or revealed, by a passion for preferment and by "the mania for owning things." This spirit is not foreign to even the academic places. Carlyle's ideal of a man who simply does his work day by day, taking up in turn each new duty as it comes to him, is not commonly realized among those who have attained a degree of prominence in the community. Most men demand or seek recognition of their achievements. The pleasure of doing the work, and satisfaction in a task well performed, do not suffice. But the memory of Professor William A. Finch reminds us that in this age of rush and push there are those



ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

JOSEPH W. BINGHAM
DE WITTE B. WYKOFF

FREDERICK D. COLSON

HENRY W. EDGERTON
CHARLES S. COLLIER



who do pass through life unharassed by irritating ambitions; that there are some who do not clamor or intrigue for a public attestation of their services and virtues. Professor Finch was such a man. He was always an eager and absorbed student, finding keen pleasure in the acquisition of knowledge, but experiencing a livelier delight in making it useful to his associates and those who sought instruction under him. He gave but fitful attention to the material things of life for he was engrossed with the affairs of the intellect. Having mastered the law of real property, the most subtle and difficult department of the common law, he understood, as few do, the remote political and social factors that lie back of its archaisms. The study and teaching of this subject in the Cornell law school was his vocation during the last twenty-one years of his life. His avocation was to recreate himself with the Latin and Greek classics, and with the current results of the best scientific and philosophic thought, as published in French, German or English. From his student days until the time of his death, for thirty-five years, he passed through many periods of invalidism and during his latest years might well have claimed exemption from further labor; but never did he manifest a loss of hope or buoyancy,—never did his joy in his work subside. Lockhart in his life of Sir Walter Scott tells us of that pathetic moment near the end of the great novelist's life when he demanded that pen and paper be brought to him and how, when he found that he could write no more, tears rolled down his cheeks unrestrained. Pathetic, too, were incidents of Professor Finch's last days in the law school. One day he stepped from the platform to write upon the blackboard but his strength failed him; a few days later he was overcome by weakness on his way from the lecture room; yet he still persisted with no abatement of his mental activity, with no diminution of his cheerfulness and with no cessation of plans for the future. A few days afterward the last vestige of strength for further effort left him and he came no more to the school where he had taught so long. It seems as if it were not too much to say that among all the hundreds of young men who received instruction from him, there was not one who was his enemy; that there was not one, indeed, who entertained for him other than a kindly and friendly feeling. To his students in class room and in consultation, he gave unstintedly of his knowledge, and without regard to the undue exactions that such exertion was making upon his powers. During the last year of his teaching he was obliged to spend all his time lying down except for the hours actually required by his presence at the law school. Without financial assistance from others he worked his way with distinction through the university while he was even then under the handicap of ill health. He won a position where

he exerted upon hundreds of young men the influence of a scholarly, generous and kindly personality. His mind was without guile; his heart was quick to respond to every suggestion of need. He did not walk amid the traffic of the world, yet all who passed his way felt a touch of the spirit of this true and inodest man. Upon the tablet erected to his memory in Boardman Hall are these just words: *Vir bonus juris peritus.*

Edwin H. Woodruff.

HAYES, ALFRED, Jr. A.B., 1895 (Princeton), LL.B. 1898 (Columbia) Mr. Hayes practiced law in New York City from 1898 until 1907. Coincidentally with practicing law, he also from 1902 to 1907 was a tutor and later a lecturer in the Columbia law school. In 1907, he became professor of law at Cornell. After ten years of service on the Cornell law faculty he resigned in 1917 and resumed practice in New York City. Professor Hayes was a great favorite with his students. His legal ability and his fine ardor in the class room stirred their interest in such fashion that he is remembered appreciatively by all of them.

HARDON, HENRY WINTHROP. A.B. 1882 (Harvard), LL.B. 1885 (Harvard). After ten years practice in New York City, Mr. Hardon was appointed professor of law at Cornell, where he taught during the year 1895-1896. He was then called to a professorship of law at the Columbia Law School, where he remained until 1899, when he resumed practice in New York City.

HUGHES, CHARLES EVANS. A.B. 1881 (Brown University), LL.B. 1884 (Columbia). From 1884 until 1891 Mr. Hughes was engaged in the practice of law in New York City. He was professor of law at Cornell for two years, from 1891 to 1893, and non-resident lecturer from 1893 to 1895. From Jan. 1, 1907 to Oct. 6, 1910, he was governor of the State of New York, upon which latter date he resigned that office. In October, 1910, he became an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, from which position he resigned in 1916, upon receiving the Republican nomination for the presidency. Since 1916 he has been engaged in practice in New York City. The students of Judge Hughes's day in the law school were vastly impressed then, as the courts and his fellow lawyers are now, by his extraordinary reasoning power, his amazing memory, and the ease with which he uses both.

HUTCHINS, HARRY BURNS. Ph.B. 1871 (University of Michigan), LL.D. 1897 (University of Wisconsin). Mr. Hutchins was born in New Hampshire in 1847. After his admission to the bar in 1876, and until 1887, he was engaged in practice at Mt. Clemens and Detroit, Michigan. From 1884 to 1887 he was Jay professor of law in the University of Michigan having been appointed to succeed Judge Cooley in that chair. In 1887 he was called to Cornell as professor of law and to become the active executive head and chief organizer of the new law school. Professor Hutchins returned to his Alma Mater in 1895 to become dean of her law school. In recognition of his distinguished ability as an administrator he was made president of the University of Michigan in 1909, a position from which he will retire at the end of the present academic year. At Cornell he was a thorough, methodical and considerate teacher and executive. In his class room and in his office his urbane and dignified personality commanded the respect of the students. He was just and reasonable in the conduct of affairs. All these qualities found exercise in the establishment of the traditions of the Cornell law school at a time of beginnings. He was a large factor in overcoming the many obstacles that naturally attend the inauguration of a new institution. To his retirement he will happily carry with him the kindest appreciation by the alumni of two universities.

POUND, CUTHBERT WINFRED. Judge Pound is a native of Lockport, N. Y. He was a member of the class of 1887 at Cornell. From 1886 until 1895 he practiced law in Lockport. In 1894-95 he was a member of the New York State Senate. He became a member of the law faculty at Cornell in 1895 and held a professorship for nine years, returning to practice at Lockport in 1904. He was a member of the New York State Civil Service Commission from 1900 to 1905, and its president during four years of his tenure. In January, 1905, he became legal adviser to Governor Higgins, by whom he was appointed a justice of the New York Supreme Court in the spring of the following year. He remained upon the Supreme bench until 1915 when he was designated to sit in the Court of Appeals of which he has since become an associate judge by election. He is now serving his second term as a trustee of Cornell University. His public career began at the age of twenty-five as city attorney of Lockport, and at thirty he was a prominent member of the State senate. He became a professor in the Cornell law school at the age of thirty-one. Judge Pound is at once a student and an active man of affairs. In his exposition of the law in the class room legal theory was always expounded under the watchful eye of the god of things as they are. For him legal prob-

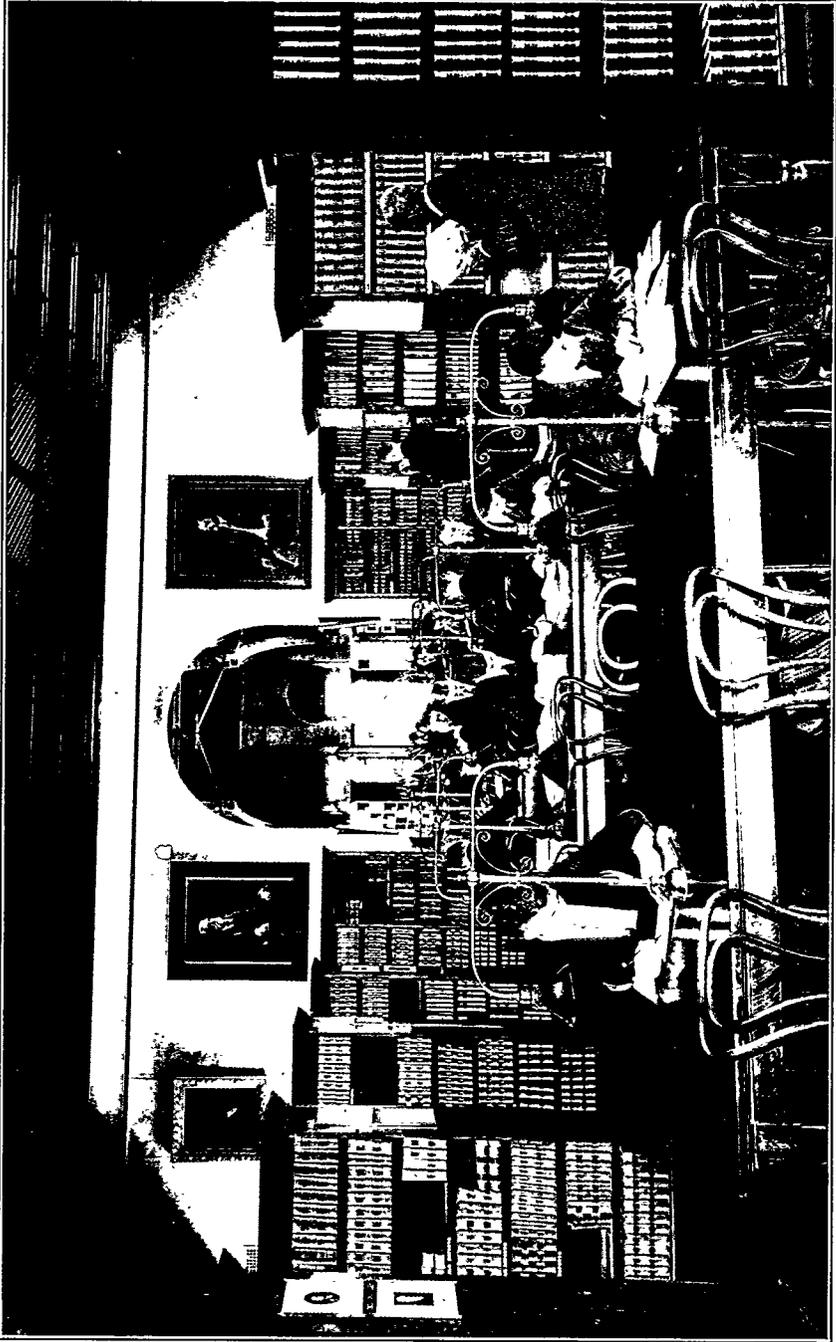
lems do not exist in a vacuum. He is a legal ecologist. The characteristics of his teaching,—a swift, incisive and often epigrammatic disposition of a question appeared again in the rapidity and good sense with which as a trial judge he conducted the business of his court. As a judge of the court of last resort in New York his opinions bear evidence of breadth of view and an enlightened regard for the spirit of the time, while not departing from whatsoever things have been found true. As trustee of Cornell University he manifests the liveliest interest in all the affairs of the institution and particularly the law school.

REDFIELD, HENRY STEPHEN. A.B. 1877 (Amherst), A.M. 1887 (Amherst). Mr. Redfield was admitted to the bar in 1879, and practiced law in Elmira, N. Y., until 1898. From the latter year until 1901, he was professor of practice and procedure in the Cornell law school. In 1901 he was called to a professorship in the Columbia law school, and in 1905 he was made Nash Professor of Law in that school. This chair he occupied until, in 1916, he was forced by illness to retire. Professor Redfield was successful in teaching the particularly refractory subject of Practice. He came to Cornell after twenty years of actual work as a practitioner and was consequently equipped with a background of experience that was invaluable. He soon organized his experience into material systematically arranged for the class room. His three years in the school contributed very materially to the firm establishment of that part of the curriculum. He was gentle yet firm, with the gift of painstaking labor.

WILLIAMS, CHARLES LAIDLAW. A.B. 1906 (Columbia), LL.B. 1908 (Columbia). Mr. Williams was acting assistant professor of law from April to December, 1913, taking Professor Woodruff's courses during a few months' absence of the latter.

WYCKOFF, DE WITTE B. LL.B. 1910 (Cornell). Mr. Wyckoff was appointed acting assistant professor in the law school in 1914, upon the occasion of a leave of absence granted to Dean Irvine, and remained at the school in that capacity for two years. He is now engaged in legal editorial work in New York City.





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