

PROFESSOR JOSEPH LE CONTE OF STATE UNIVERSITY DIES IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

VENERABLE SCIENTIST NO MORE

Succumbs Suddenly to Heart Failure While Sojourning in the Beautiful Valley

Dying Man Calls His Daughter to His Side, Gasps for Breath and Quietly Expires

Pleasure Trip Is Terminated Through Unexpected Visit of the Dread Destroyer

YOSEMITE VALLEY, July 6.—Professor Joseph Le Conte died suddenly this morning at 11 o'clock at Camp Curry of heart failure. Yesterday he was apparently in good health and took a ride around the valley. When he returned he complained of a feeling of pain in the region of the heart. He took a nap before dinner and got up feeling much refreshed. He ate a hearty dinner and remained in good spirits up to the time of retiring, about 9 o'clock. He had planned to take a trip on the morrow and spend the night at Glacier Point, having already engaged his rooms at the Glacier Point Hotel.

About midnight the professor was awakened with the return of the pain around his heart and had great difficulty in breathing.

Calls Daughter and Dies. He got up and took some medicine that he had in his tent and went to sleep again, but was awakened in a short time by a much severer pain. Again he applied his own remedies, but receiving no relief called in Dr. William O. Taylor, one of the gentlemen of his party.

In the morning the professor would not allow his party to remain at home, but made them go on the trip he had planned. At 7 a. m. Dr. Charles Cross of the Sentinel Hotel was sent for. The physician found Professor Le Conte in great distress, still complaining of the pain in the region of the heart.

Dr. Cross administered some remedies that relieved the aged scientist greatly and left him at 10 a. m., resting peacefully, in charge of his daughter, Mrs. Davis, and a nurse, staying at Camp Curry. At 10:30 the professor was awakened by the pain, and called his daughter to his bedside. He gasped for breath for a few minutes, turned over on his left side and passed away.

Dr. Cross said Professor Le Conte had died of angina pectoris.

Body on Way to San Francisco. The body was embalmed and left here at 5 o'clock, accompanied by Mrs. Davis, on the Y. S. and T. stage, hung with wreaths of blue and gold. It will arrive at Raymond, a distance of seventy miles, in time to catch the 7:50 o'clock train in the morning, which is due in San Francisco at 4:30 p. m.

Professor Le Conte has spent his vacations in the Yosemite and vicinity for several years and had become very well acquainted with these regions. This year he came up with the Sierra Club and arrived in the valley on the Fourth of July. His plan was to remain in the Yosemite until Thursday, when he expected to be joined by the rest of the Sierra Club, making a party of about sixty, and start for the Tuolumne Meadows, to make a tour of the surrounding country. Professor Le Conte's sudden death will alter the plans of the club.

FEELING RECOLLECTIONS OF OLD-TIME ASSOCIATES
Professor George Davidson Tells of the Virtues of Dead Fellow-Scientist.
Probably no man knew and loved Professor Le Conte better than his old friend and associate, Professor George Davidson, and certainly none of the many who deplore Le Conte's death mourn him more sincerely than this same old friend. Davidson and Le Conte were friends since 1889. In that year both became members of the California Academy of Sciences, and their interest in that institution brought them much into each other's society. From '77 to '84 Davidson served as Regent of the University of

BIRTHDAY WAS ALWAYS REMEMBERED
PROFESSOR THOMAS R. BACON spoke festively on the death of Dr. Le Conte. "His was a wonderful personality," he said. "It attracted all—even those who saw him only once. His universal kindness and unwavering honesty endeared him to the students especially. He could not know them all by name, but his heart was wonderfully broad and sympathetic. He was the best loved man in the faculty. Since his seventieth birthday the students had made it a custom to greet him in his classes on that anniversary with his desk piled high with flowers. It was only one mark of the great affection with which he was universally held."



FAMOUS EDUCATOR OF WORLD

Noted on Two Continents as a Natural Scientist and as an "Evolution" Philosopher

Respected and Revered by the Many Students Who Came Under His Influence

His Loss Mourned Not Only at Berkeley but in the East and European Cities

JOSEPH LE CONTE, aged, revered and gray from a long life of scientific usefulness, died in nature's own garden. Amid the towering mountains and the broad sweeping valleys of the Yosemite—the mountains and the valleys which he loved so well—the life of this truly great man passed from its earthly ceremonies. His name will endure, not only in the halls of the University of California, where he was apotheosized, but the world over, where natural science and its teachings are of any moment.

In Joseph Le Conte's death the University of California loses a teacher and a name written on the tablets of scientific fame. He was more than a great professor. His gentle, lovable and strong nature was a power felt by all who came under the influence of his personality, which was a teacher in itself. Old and feeble in body, but with a mental vigor capable of coping with the sternest problems of religion and science, "Prof. Joe" has steered many a man and woman over the obstacles of thought. His playful imagination, the poetic side of his makeup and his warm generosity made him a man to be revered and loved. His philosophy of life was naturalistic, but he reconciled it with the teachings of Christianity in his own logical and consistent way.

Was the Ideal Professor.
In the classroom Joseph Le Conte was the ideal professor. It was not the reverence and the respect always shown him by his students that made him the beloved of the university. There was heart to him. He had that rare faculty of making life out of death. Dry and coldly scientific as his subjects were, under his hands they took on the shades and color of interest. His classrooms were always crowded and from the beginning to the end of his lectures an eager student body hung upon his words. The place of his death was his own

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PRONOUNCED STAND UPON EVOLUTION

PROFESSOR MARTIN KELLOGG said: "Dr. Le Conte was a remarkable all-round scientific man. He was not so much a specialist as a scientist in the broadest sense of the term. It is viewed in this light that we must consider him a very eminent man. We were all proud of him and glad to see him honored. There was no man whose honors were so universally appreciated and approved by us as Dr. Le Conte's. And among others his attainments were recognized and his opinions respected. He had a distinguished number of acquaintances and correspondents abroad. He was warmly admired and loved by the student body. His lecture room was always crowded, for his charming personality drew us all to him. Though he gave a remarkably comprehensive and thorough course of lectures, I feel safe in saying that it was the influence of the man, the contact with his mind and teachings that attracted us. His method of lecturing was remarkably agreeable. He had an unusual literary gift in public speaking that amounted practically to oratory. In his bearing he was cordial and courteous to everybody. He was not a man to come into personal collision with others. He didn't trouble himself much with the routine work of the institution, but he did a great deal to put heart and admiration into the body of students."
"In philosophy he took his pronounced stand on evolution. In religious beliefs he was originally in South Carolina distinctively a Presbyterian, but here the influence of his wife and brother made him lean toward Episcopalianism. He was a devout man. He was liberal, receptive and cool-headed, but he had a strong religious faith."
"Dr. Joe was more vigorous and alert than his brother John. He had a wiry frame and was capable of standing long trips and much hardship. He loved to explore mountain ranges and their formation. Lake Tahoe he knew well, and especially the Yosemite Valley. In one sense it was almost appropriate that he should end his life in the place he was so fond of. He made frequent trips to the Sierras in recent years and always seemed to come back stronger and more cheerful. His health was unusually good; only recently he had suffered somewhat from persistent attacks of the grip."

"He was a model for young men. He had only one failing—he never wanted to say 'no.' He was never known to say ill of any man. He was always kind, and no matter how much evil was reported of a man, he would still believe there must be some good streak in him."
"His life was pure. His ideas were pure. He was thoroughly religious, and, while believing in evolution, he tried to reconcile scientific evolution with the doctrines of the Bible."—DAVIDSON ON LE CONTE.

THOUGH TEACHINGS MAY BE FORGOTTEN BY SOME, MEMORY OF WHAT HE WAS WILL ALWAYS ENDURE

HIS soul was clear as a crystal. His graciousness of manner was only the reflection of his inner life, which was grace and human kindness personified. A kindly human interest threw its robe over all the framework of his scientific life, and made him, with all his attainments and all his knowing, a vital, living, loving, helpful human force. He dealt with the world of nature, but its lessons for the life of man, for the cleansing and uplifting of personal and social life, were of immediate importance to his thought. Many among the hundreds who have sat in his lecture-room may forget what he taught, none will forget what he was. Even through the pages of his books shone out the warmth of his personality."—WHEELER ON LE CONTE.

PURE IN HIS IDEAS AND SPEAKING ILL OF NONE, HE WAS A MODEL FOR ALL YOUNG MEN TO FOLLOW

HE was a supreme man, made to impart knowledge. As Agassiz said, 'I am a teacher,' so may it be said of Le Conte. He was made to impart knowledge, not only to the young, but the old as well.
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