

are very much broader questions involved in the investigation and the evidence there brought out than in the present charge which is narrower and definite and can now be properly disposed of. The broader issues raised by the investigation, which have a much weightier relation than this one to the general efficiency of the department, may require much more radical action than the question I have here considered and decided.

There is another charge against Dr. Rusby for securing the appointment on the common laborers rolls, of a physician and expert, whom he could use to do his work at a very small stipend when he himself was called away in other employment. I regret to say that the arrangement which Dr. Rusby thus made is not especially creditable to him and shakes in some degree one's confidence in his avowed wish to make personal pecuniary sacrifice in the public interest for the enforcement of the pure food law. But Dr. Rusby's position as an expert of high standing is such that I do not think that any more than this expression of opinion should be imposed as penalty. My information is that the government needs his services and that he has already rendered valuable aid. The error referred to, committed by him, does not call for further action or remark.

You will communicate the result to the Personnel Board, and also to the persons charged.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM H. TAFT

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*PROFESSOR JOSIAH KEEP*

PROFESSOR KEEP, whose death, on July 27 last, at Pacific Grove, California, was recently announced, was born in Paxton, Mass., in 1849, and was a graduate of Leicester Academy and Amherst College (1874), taking his Master's degree as a post-graduate student in 1877. In that year he married Amelia Caroline Holman, of Leicester, Mass., and went to California. There he taught in the Golden Gate Academy and the Alameda High School, being principal of the latter from 1881 to 1885. In 1885 he became Professor of the Nat-

ural Sciences in Mills College, which, from small beginnings as a private seminary for girls, has through the efforts and generosity of its founders developed into a well-equipped and charmingly situated college, the Wellesley of the Pacific Coast.

Here Professor Keep found his life work as teacher and coadjutor with the still surviving founder, Mrs. Mills, and saw the branches of science originally confided to him alone, by degree represented in the teaching force by a number of competent instructors, while he retained for himself the subjects of geology and astronomy.

With the wide general knowledge required by his field of work, it was of course impossible for him to be a specialist in any, but his deep interest had been aroused in the study of the mollusca in which the Pacific Coast is so rich. Between 1881 and 1911 he published a series of what might be called primers of west-coast shells, illustrated with figures, enabling the beginner to gain a preliminary knowledge of the attractive shells of California. To these little books we may fairly ascribe much of the wide-spread interest which is to-day found among Californians and which by the cooperation of amateurs with specialists, has immensely increased our knowledge of the Pacific coast fauna.

The last of these manuals was published only shortly before his death. Professor Keep was one of the founders of the Chautauqua Assembly which meets at Pacific Grove, and frequently lectured to its classes on his favorite subject. He was also one of the most earnest supporters of the Museum and Library at Pacific Grove.

Modest, courteous, indefatigable and enthusiastic, he was primarily a teacher and organizer; beloved by his classes and appreciated by those reached through his books and so led to the study of nature. In his unassuming way he has done a good work and found his reward in doing it. He leaves a widow, son and daughter to mourn his loss.

WM. H. DALL