HENRY ALFRED TODD

Romance Philology suffered a very severe loss in the death of HENRY ALFRED TODD on January 3, 1925.[1] Professor Todd's memory will always be deeply cherished by those who had the pleasure of coming in contact with his gracious and affable personality. He was one of the pioneers in a field that in his later years came to be recognized as one of the most important subjects in the curricula of American educational institutions. Graduating at Princeton with the A.B. degree in 1876, he became instructor in Johns Hopkins University in 1883, after having passed three years in study in Paris, Berlin, Rome and Madrid. Associated with Professor A. Marshall Elliott he began a career of usefulness seldom, if ever, equaled in the history of an American university. In enthusiastic coöperation these two eminent scholars embarked upon the problematic career of educating the American student public along philological lines, and, with that aim in view, began the publication of the *Modern Language Notes*, a learned journal that still occupies an important place in the scientific world. Called to Columbia University as professor of Romance Philology in 1893, he initiated at once graduate courses in his chosen subject, and never flinched in his efforts to encourage students to proceed to the doctorate. And it is only just to his memory to add that the unusually large number of doctoral dissertations that were accepted by the Department of Romance Languages of Columbia University from 1896 to almost the very day of his passing represent the results of his untiring efforts in this direction. Again in 1910, with the coöperation of Professor Raymond Weeks, Mr. Arthur Livingston, Professor J. D. FitzGerald, and many other American scholars, he founded at Columbia the *Romanic Review*, the first scholarly publication in the English language to be devoted entirely to the Romance field. The impetus given by his encouragement and loyal coöperation assured the success of the *Romanic Review* from the outset. Gifted with that fine spirit of youthful idealism, Professor Todd was destined to be an innovator to the very end of his splendid career, for on Sunday, December 28,

[1] Reprinted from the *Columbia Alumni News*.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0097850725090964 Published online by Cambridge University Press

1924, he took an active part in the creation of the new LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA. At its first session he read, with his usual dignity and charm, a paper of which the far-reaching purport won the enthusiastic approval of all the members present.

His profound scholarship, tempered by a rare modesty, will ever be a shining example to all those who have the honor of calling themselves his pupils.

JOHN L. GERIG.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0097850725090964 Published online by Cambridge University Press