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Ezra Cornell.

MEMORANDUM AND RESOLUTIONS
PASSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COM-
MITTEE OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY, DECEMBER
9, 1874.

HE Executive Committee of the Trustees of Cornell University having received intelligence of the death of the Honorable **Ezra Cornell**, order that the following Memorandum and Resolutions be entered upon their minutes, and that copies be furnished to the family of the deceased, to the various bodies of which he was a member, and to the press for publication.

Mr. Cornell was made President of this body at the organization of the Board of Trustees, in 1865. During the nine years which have since elapsed, he has steadily given his best thoughts and efforts to the great work in which we have been associated.

Although other enterprises calculated to increase the prosperity of the community and the State in which he dwelt received freely of his self-sacrificing labor and of his fortune, the central point in all his planning and working was the University which he had founded, and which, contrary to his original intention, received his name.

His labors have been almost without cessation, and entirely without selfishness. In addition to many other benefactions, his foresight led him to do for the State of New York what the State could not do for herself, in locating lands for the benefit of the University. Clearly discerning that this was advantageous to the Institution whose prosperity he had so deeply at heart, he freely devoted the bulk of his fortune, his

best thoughts, his constant labors, to carrying out this plan, of which the only inspiration was the desire to confer a benefit upon young men seeking advanced instruction.

Having decided upon this plan, he consented not only to bear labor, but to brave obloquy. The most bitter opposition, the most chilling indifference, the most cruel calumny, were alike unable to turn him from his purpose.

In thoughtful remembrance of his sacrifices for whatever he thought worthy, of his deep devotion to whatever he thought just, of his fearlessness in behalf of whatever he thought right, we desire, for the benefit of a coming generation which is doubtless to show more gratitude than was shown him during his lifetime, to record our deliberate and solemn testimony that in a retrospect of all these years of intimate association, we can recall not one act of his animated by a desire to increase his own fortune, to improve his own position, or to advance his own fame. All his work with us, constant as it has been, has revealed but one aim; and that aim the improvement—moral, intellectual and social—of his fellow-men.

Nor can we close this brief memorial without a tribute of respect to that breadth of view which caused him always to look above and beyond the boundaries of party, and sect, and creed, and to labor simply for man as man.

And as a further token of respect for our lamented associate, we add to this Memorandum the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to examine and report concerning the placing of some simple memorial to our deceased friend at the University which he founded, and that a suitable recognition of his services be publicly made at such time as shall be found fitting.

Resolved, That this Board do, as a body, attend the approaching funeral.



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