

## CHARLES REUBEN KEYES

CHARLES REUBEN KEYES died on July 23, 1951 at his home in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, only three months after his eightieth birthday. For 30 years professor of German language and literature at Cornell College (Iowa), Dr. Keyes received his higher education at Cornell College, Harvard, and at the Universities of Munich and Berlin.

As a local Mt. Vernon boy of fourteen, he started to search for Indian relics in the rock shelters near the Cedar River. Although he gained a knowledge of the archeology of Iowa which surpassed that of all others, he never considered himself to be more than an amateur student. In many conversations, when asked when he would publish his work, he expressed an incompetence to make a thorough study. And yet his attic laboratory was filled with the fruits of twenty-nine years of diligent research as Director of the Iowa Archeological Survey. Dr. Keyes' modest publications give only a clue to the magnitude of this study. He felt that whether he published the results of his work or not was of little consequence. What was important was that the knowledge that he had gained must be accurately and adequately recorded. Each site he investigated was meticulously located and numbered on county and township maps. Each artifact he collected or received for the Survey was carefully catalogued and fully described. These records remain the property of the State Historical Society of Iowa and will afford a firm basis for future archeological work in the Iowa area.

His interests were catholic, for he was widely known as a competent ornithologist and geologist, in addition to his standing as an archeologist and teacher. A gentle person, he was a born teacher, and his warm interest in people won him the affection of all who knew him — a true example of a gentleman and a scholar.

—CHARLES E. GILLETTE

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