

JEAN CULBERT PALMER

1872 - 1929

In the death of Jean Culbert Palmer the Faculty of Vassar College have suffered a grievous loss. To all who knew her she was a friend of warm sympathy, modest in valuing her own achievements, keenly concerned for the happiness of those about her.

A gracious manner, which was in her the expression of a generous spirit, gave charm to any gathering of which she was a member and lent distinction to her every act. Never too hurried to give ear to those in trouble, great or small, she was ever ready with wise counsel. We sought her in the sure sense that her kindly sympathy and friendly understanding would not fail. Her buoyancy and gaiety of spirit radiated good cheer and friendliness wherever she went, and her lively sense of humor and zest for life were a source of constant enjoyment to all who came in contact with her. Hers was a true sociability of the spirit, springing from a genuine liking for people and an unstinted giving out of the treasures of her rich personality.

In her keen enjoyment of what might have been tasks or stern duties she made of every day living a fine art. To the last, even through months of painful illness, her vivid personality was never dimmed nor did her brave spirit fail. She fought the good fight with the courage and faith that were always hers.

As Warden of the College from 1915 to the time of her death on July 11, 1929, she was ever a harmonizer between the older code of courtesy and the newer demands of freedom. She was a unifying force between academic traditions on the one hand, and the interests of social living in its widest sense on the other. We cherish, therefore, her fourteen years of life and work among us as one of the imperishable endowments of Vassar College.

G. Mildred Thompson

Mary MacColl

Helen S. Banfield

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