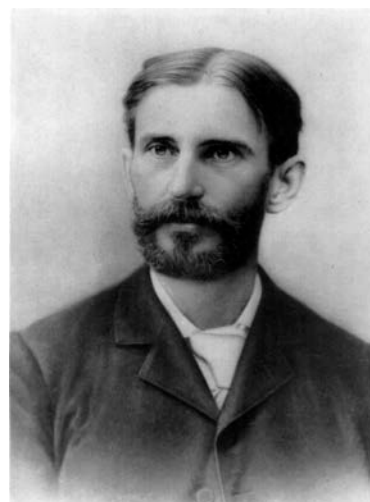


TimeLine

Person of the Month: George Trumbull Ladd (1842-1921)

Ankit Patel^{1*}

Born	January 19, 1842 Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, US
Died	August 8, 1921 (aged 79) New Haven, Connecticut, US
Citizenship	American
Known for	The Principles of Church Polity (1882), What is the Bible? (1888), Philosophy of Knowledge (1897)
Education	Western Reserve College Andover Theological Seminary



George Trumbull Ladd, (born January 19, 1842, Painesville, Ohio, U.S.—died August 8, 1921, New Haven, Connecticut), philosopher and psychologist whose textbooks were influential in establishing experimental psychology in the United States. He called for a scientific psychology, but he viewed psychology as ancillary to philosophy. He was a grandson of Jesse Ladd and Ruby Brewster, who were among the original pioneers in Madison, Lake County, Ohio. Ruby was a granddaughter of Oliver Brewster and Martha Wadsworth Brewster, a poet and writer, and one of the earliest American female literary figures.

Ladd's main interest was in writing *Elements of Physiological Psychology* (1887), the first handbook of its kind in English. Because of its emphasis on neurophysiology, it long remained a standard work. In addition, Ladd's *Psychology, Descriptive and Explanatory* (1894) is important as a theoretical system of functional psychology, considering the human being as an organism with a mind purposefully solving problems and adapting to its environment.

He early gave indications of the studious habits that characterized him through life. When he was eight years old his first savings, two dollars, were spent for a copy of Josephus and Plutarch, while when eighteen years of age he read Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*. He

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graduated from Western Reserve College in 1864 and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1869. He was ordained to the Congregational ministry on May 26, 1870. The degree of Doctor of Divinity (D.D. or DD, Divinitatis Doctor in Latin) was conferred on him by Western Reserve College in 1879; Yale University that of M.A. in 1881, Western Reserve College that of LL.D. in 1895, and Princeton University that of LL.D. in 1896.

He was much influenced by the German philosopher Hermann Lotze, whose *Outlines of Philosophy* he translated (6 vols, 1877) and was one of the first to introduce (1879) the study of experimental psychology into America; the Yale psychological laboratory being founded by him. In 1887, he published *Elements of Physiological Psychology*, the first American textbook to include a substantial amount of information on the new experimental form of the discipline. Ladd died on August 8, 1921 at New Haven, Connecticut. After cremation, half his ashes were buried in Sōji-ji, Tsurumi-ku, Yokohama, Japan and a monument was erected to him. The remaining ashes were interred under a monument of the rising sun in Grove Street Cemetery, New Haven, Ct.

TIMELINE

- 1842: Born on January 19, 1842 in Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, US.
- 1864: He graduated from Western Reserve College.
- 1866: He went to the Andover Theological Seminary.
- 1869: He married on December 8, 1869 at Bridgeport, Belmont County, Ohio, Cornelia Ann Tallman, born August 26, 1842 at St. Clairsville, Belmont County, Ohio and died on October 19, 1893 at North Haven, New Haven County, Connecticut. She was the daughter of Ellen Ryne and John C. Tallman, a well-known banker and business man of Bridgeport, Ohio.
- 1869: He was installed as the pastor of the Congregational Church in Edinburg, Portage County, Ohio, remaining here until 1871.
- 1869: He joined Andover Theological Seminary.
- 1870: He was ordained to the Congregational ministry. (May 26, 1870.)
- 1871: He began to preach at the Spring Street Congregational Church of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin leaving in 1879.
- 1877: He translated *Outlines of Philosophy* (6 vols., 1877) and was one of the first to introduce (1879) the study of experimental psychology into America.
- 1879: He was professor of intellectual and moral philosophy at Bowdoin College from 1879 to 1881.
- 1879: The degree of Doctor of Divinity (D.D. or DD, Divinitatis Doctor in Latin) was conferred on him by Western Reserve College.
- 1879: During 1879 to 1882 he lectured on theology at Andover Theological Seminary, and in 1883 at Harvard University, where during the time period of 1895 to 1896 he conducted a graduate seminar in ethics.
- 1881: Yale University that of M.A.
- 1881: 'Clark Professor of Metaphysics and Moral Philosophy' at Yale University (a professorship that still exists) from 1881 until 1901.
- 1887: He published *Elements of Physiological Psychology*, the first American textbook to include a substantial amount of information on the new experimental form of the discipline.
- 1892: He lectured at Imperial University in Japan.
- 1895: He married second, on December 9, 1895, Frances Virginia Stevens, born February 9, 1866, at New York City, the daughter of Dr. George T. Stevens and Harriet Weeks Wadhams. There were no children from the second marriage.

Person of the Month: George Trumbull Ladd (1842-1921)

1895: Western Reserve College that of LL.D.

1896: Princeton University that of LL.D.

1905: Ladd became Professor Emeritus.

1906: He lectured at universities of India in Calcutta, Bombay and Benares.

1942: Die on August 8, 1921 (aged 79) in New Haven, Connecticut, US.

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