

NECROLOGICAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

OF

Princeton Theological Seminary

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING,

April 24, 1877,

BY A COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION.



PHILADELPHIA :

GRANT, FAIRES & RODGERS, PRINTERS, 52 & 54 N. SIXTH STREET.

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ception of the doctrines of grace and a happy faculty for presenting them. Revivals of religion followed his labors in many places where he preached, and in his early ministry he greatly injured his health by his earnest and continuous labors in promoting them, His labors at Cedar Rapids were very fruitful.

XVIII.

ROBERT DAVIDSON, D.D.

Dr. Davidson was born at Carlisle, Pa., Feb. 23d, 1808, and was the only child of the Rev. Robert Davidson, D.D., the second President of Dickinson College, and nearly thirty years pastor of what is now the First Presbyterian Church of Carlisle. The son was graduated at Dickinson College, Pa., in 1828. While in College he had become a member of the church of which his father had been pastor, and at once turned his face towards the ministry. He entered Princeton Seminary in the fall of 1828, and took here the full course of three years, graduating in 1831. In the following year he took charge of the McChord (or Second) Church of Lexington, Ky., and was ordained there in March, 1832. He remained in that pastorate until 1840, and became distinguished for his pulpit eloquence and his earnest work as a pastor. In 1840 he became President of Transylvania University, Ky., in which position he continued two years. In 1842 he was appointed by Gov. Letcher to the office of Supt. of Public Institutions, but after holding it a short time and declining a Professorship in Centre College and the Presidency of Ohio University, which were tendered to him, he accepted the pastoral charge of the First Presbyterian Church in New Brunswick N. J., over which he was installed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, May 4, 1843. There he labored assiduously and successfully until Oct. 4, 1859, at which time he was released by the Presbytery from his pastoral charge and dismissed to the Presbytery of New York. In the latter city he became pastor of the Spring Street Church, and continued in that relation four years. From 1864 to 1868, his last pastoral charge was the First Church of Huntington, Long Island. In 1868 he was obliged by impaired health to retire from the active duties of the ministry, and afterwards resided in Philadelphia until his death.

Dr. Davidson served the General Assembly, as its Permanent Clerk from 1845 to 1850; for a quarter of a century he was a

member of the Board of Foreign Missions; for ten years preceding his death a Director of Princeton Seminary, and in 1869 was one of our Assembly's delegates to the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland.

Dr. Davidson was a frequent contributor to the periodical literature of the day, throughout his ministerial life and up to the time of his death. He published a large number of pamphlets, sermons, &c., and contributed several able articles to the *Princeton Review*. He was also the author of a number of volumes, the largest and best known of which is probably his "History of the Presbyterian Church in Kentucky." He was a man of fine culture, a scholar, and a writer of great purity and elegance. In private intercourse he was kind and courteous, but also dignified. As a minister of Christ he won and maintained to the end, a high position. During the last years of his life he was a useful member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

His death occurred in Philadelphia on Thursday, April 6th, 1876, in the sixty-ninth year of his age, and was very sudden, being caused by an obscure disease of the heart. Accompanied by his wife, he rode out to Fairmount Park to view the recently erected Centennial Buildings. While there, he was seized with sudden faintness and, before he could be carried to his home, he had departed this life.

XIX.

HARRISON GREENOUGH PARK.

Mr. Park was a son of the Rev. Calvin Park, D.D., and was born in Providence, R. I., July 26, 1806. He was graduated at Brown University, R. I., in 1824, and studied theology one year with the Rev. B. B. Wisner, D.D., of Boston. After teaching one year and studying law another, he entered Princeton Seminary in the fall of 1828, and spent there about a year after his matriculation. He was ordained and installed at South Dedham (now Norwood), Mass., Dec. 16, 1829, and was released from that charge Sept. 23, 1835. He was installed pastor of the Second Congregational Church at Danvers, Mass., Feb. 1, 1837, and was released Oct. 27, 1838. Afterwards he was successively installed at Burlington, Vt., Nov. 15, 1849, and dismissed May 10, 1852; installed at Bernardstown, Mass., Aug. 12, 1856, and dismissed in 1858; and installed at Westminster, Vt., Nov. 17, 1858, and dismissed March 13, 1860. From 1837 to 1849 he was employed as agent for "The Mother's Maga-