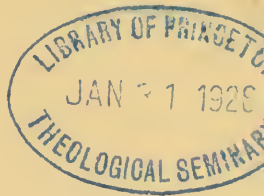


## Memorial.

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LYMAN HOTCHKISS ATWATER, D.D., LL.D.

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ADDRESSES

DELIVERED AT THE FUNERAL

OF

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LYMAN HOTCHKISS ATWATER, D.D., LL.D.,

PROFESSOR OF LOGIC AND MORAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCE IN THE  
COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY,

IN

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

PRINCETON, N. J.,

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1883

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A MEMORIAL DISCOURSE,

DELIVERED IN THE COLLEGE CHAPEL

ON

THE EVENING OF BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY,

JUNE 17, 1883.

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST OF THE TRUSTEES.

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## INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

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THIS Memorial of Dr. Lyman H. Atwater has been published in accordance with the wishes of his family and friends, and by request of the Trustees of Princeton College. Only a few prefatory words are needed.

After an active service to the College of more than twenty-eight years, Dr. Atwater was laid aside by sickness in October last. A few months of struggle with mortal disease, in which hopes and fears fluctuated, followed. He died on Saturday morning, February 17, 1883. On Tuesday afternoon, February 20th, he was buried with impressive services. Prayer was offered at his late residence by the venerable Ex-President of the College, John Maclean, D.D., LL.D. The remains were then borne to the First Presbyterian Church, accompanied by the students of the College and the Theological Seminary. There a very large congregation assembled, filling the church to its utmost capacity, in which the Trustees of the College, the Trustees and Directors of the Theological Seminary, and the Presbytery of New Brunswick were largely represented. Hundreds of Dr. Atwater's old pupils and friends were also there to join in the last tributes of respect and affection. It was significant of the esteem in which Dr. Atwater was held by his townsmen, that many of the places of business were closed during the funeral services.

The devotional services at the church were conducted

by the Pastor, Rev. Horace G. Hinsdale, and by the Rev. Dr. John T. Duffield, of the College Faculty.

The Addresses of Dr. Noah Porter, President of Yale College, the classmate and life-long friend of Dr. Atwater; of Dr. McCosh, President of Princeton College; and of Dr. A. A. Hodge, of Princeton Theological Seminary, are printed in this Memorial in the order of their delivery. Subsequently the Rev. Dr. Wm. M. Taylor, of New York, was requested by the Faculty to prepare a Discourse, commemorating the life and services of Dr. Atwater, to be given at the ensuing Commencement, on the evening of Baccalaureate Sunday—a request with which he kindly complied. It is believed by the committee of the Faculty to whom the publication of this Memorial was entrusted, that in these varied and excellent delineations of Dr. Atwater's life and character, a permanent and valuable record has been secured of one, whose loss will be long and deeply felt.

# ADDRESS

OF

THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER HODGE, D.D.,

*Professor in the Princeton Theological Seminary.*

## A D D R E S S .

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As has been already said, the grand distinctions of Dr. Atwater were the judicial character of his judgment, the weight of his personal influence, and the many-sidedness of his intelligence and of his actually achieved results. His force lay not in the amount of his acquisitions nor in the adventitious conditions of his reputation, or of his position, but rather in the robust and wise and effective manhood into which he had developed. The gentlemen who have preceded me have spoken of him as a product of New England manhood, religion, and culture, of his eminence in metaphysical and ethical philosophy, and as an original thinker in the departments of political and financial science, and of his great services as a teacher and counsellor in the College of New Jersey for almost the third of a century. I stand here, however, as the representative of the citizens of Princeton, of her civil and ecclesiastical societies, of the theological seminary, to give expression here to our sense of his eminent services in all these relations.

In each of these spheres Dr. Atwater was fully

and consistently himself, the strong, weighty, wise, and godly man; the centre around which multitudes of lesser men revolved; the tie by which many imperfectly accordant personalities and interests were bound together; the counsellor and judge in whose final decision the rest of us were easily persuaded to acquiesce. Coming to this village before the College had become as large and as independent a community as it is at present, he at once identified himself with our citizens in all their interests, and especially with the fellowship of the First Presbyterian Church. For a generation he has gone in and out among us as one of the princes of our people, always trusted and always proving himself worthy of the confidence universally reposed in his wisdom and fidelity. He was always the most influential man at our congregational meetings for the administration of parochial business, and an important member of all deliberative and executive committees. He was ever a faithful friend and a wise counsellor of his pastors, and an efficient aid in all situations in which his co-operation was possible. As far as his constantly multiplying engagements and his failing health permitted he was an habitual attendant upon the devotional meetings of the church, and on all occasions in which he took a public part he was eminently edifying and instructive to his fellow-worshippers.

His Christian character was, as it should be, the



crown and ornament of his entire life. It of course partook of the general attributes of his nature. It was intelligent, broad and judicial, but none the less fervent, and it controlled the whole sum of forces of his nature, and stamped itself upon the community which enjoyed his fellowship.

On the first day of last October my farewell sight of him was coincident with his latest attendance upon any place of public worship. I became suddenly and vividly conscious of his presence, standing out beyond that of the general audience as I addressed the communicants of this church. His erect forward attitude of interest, and his shining face kindled the speaker's emotions, and left his picture, under a transfiguring light, impressed upon his memory forever. He parted from us his fellow-worshippers at the Table of the Lord, with his face glowing with the affections of Christian faith and brotherhood, and reflecting the light of that heavenly temple into whose bright and joyous services he has entered before us. It was a fit closing of his public life among us.

With the Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church in this place Dr. Atwater sustained a more intimate and vital relation than any other officer of this College or any individual whatever not a member of the Seminary faculty itself, in the entire history of that institution for seventy years. For



Dr. Atwater was probably even more eminent as a theologian and as a theoretical ecclesiastic than he was in any other of the many departments in which he acquired an honorable reputation. He was unquestionably more intimately and accurately versed in all the varieties and the entire history of what is known as New England theology, than any other member of the Presbyterian Church. He was certainly, together with the late Dr. Charles Hodge, the most able as well as the most voluminous theological reviewer and controversialist of the Old School branch of the Presbyterian Church during the last quarter of a century. In 1863 he was elected by a very large majority vote of the General Assembly professor of systematic theology in the Western Theological Seminary, Allegheny City, Pennsylvania. But he has been always known in theological circles and questions as a Princeton man, and as one of the most powerful defenders of that faith in his generation. His intimate friendship and effective co-operation with the late Dr. Charles Hodge for so many years is one of the signal facts in the history of both of them. Dr. Atwater became a citizen of Princeton and a professor in this College in 1854. But his intimacy and co-operation with Dr. Hodge began fourteen years before that, with his first contribution to the *Biblical Repertory and Princeton Review*, on the "Power of Contrary Choice," in

1840. Since which time he was a constant contributor, then the most intimate counsellor, then junior editor, and then editor-in-chief. The fact is that Dr. Atwater was given to the College by the Seminary, being first attracted and then for many years held in the Princeton circle by theological sympathies.

Dr. Hodge, of course, formed the most intimate, confidential, and tender of his personal friendships in an earlier period of his life. But from the time of Dr. Atwater's permanent residence in Princeton for twenty-four years Dr. Hodge was more dependent upon him for intellectual sympathy and for counsel than upon any other man then living. This intimacy led to constant interviews and consultations in the study of the older man, in which all the theological questions of the day, and all the public interests of the Presbyterian Church at large, and of the institutions of Princeton were discussed, and the methods and policy of their defence or advocacy planned and decided. My father continually expressed to his most intimate friends his great satisfaction in Dr. Atwater's intellectual fellowship and sympathy, and his admiration for his judgment. Thus they more and more worked together hand to hand as long as the strength of the elder friend lasted. He then handed over the sole command of the old flagship to his younger colleague, as his ablest and most like-minded successor.

His articles in the *Princeton Review* are greater in number than those of any other contributor except Drs. James W. and Joseph Addison Alexander and Dr. Charles Hodge. They range over a greater variety of subjects than any one of these, including doctrine and apologetics, criticism, biography, history, education, metaphysics, ethics, politics, political economy, and finance. In all of these he wrote out of the fulness of knowledge and with great clearness and force.

Dr. Atwater delivered with great acceptance several successive courses of lectures to the students of the Theological Seminary on questions connected with mental and moral science about the years 1858 to 1863. He was a member of the board of trustees from 1860 to his death, and from 1876 vice-president of that board and chairman of the committee on grounds and buildings. These functions he discharged with unparalleled fidelity, ability, and judgment. No bill was paid, nor expense incurred, nor claim for salary or wages satisfied except upon a warrant signed by his hand. And in all matters of greater moment, as in the founding of chairs, the arrangement of the curriculum, or the election of professors, the directors were always glad to avail themselves of his advice.

In one estimate we can all agree. In this testimony the College, the village, the Church, the Theo-

logical Seminary, all unite, we have all lost the one man whom we each could least afford to spare. God in His wise benevolence will doubtless overrule even this for good. But we have little hope that He will ever again give us a man endowed with the same qualities, and adjusted to the same intricate and delicate relations, broad enough, wise enough, strong enough, well-balanced enough to fill the large void made by the death of Dr. Lyman H. Atwater.