

Herrological Report

PRESENTED TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF

Princeton Theological Seminary,

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING.

APRIL 26, 1881.

NECROLOGICAL REPORT

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BY A COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION.



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XXVI.

DAVID X.* JUNKIN, D. D.

David X. Junkin, son of Joseph and Ellinor (Cochran) Junkin, was born at Mercer, Pa., January 8, 1808. His early education was received at the Academy in Mercer, under the Rev. Thomas L. Anderson; his later preparatory education at the Academy in Milton, Pa., under the Rev. David Kirkpatrick, D. D.; and he was graduated from Jefferson College, at Canonsburg, Pa., A. D. 1831. At the age of twenty-one years he first publicly professed his faith in Christ by uniting with Chartiers Church, then under the pastoral care of the Rev. John McMillan, D. D. After spending a short time in teaching, he entered Princeton Seminary in the winter of 1831-32, and studied there for two years and six months.

Mr. Junkin was licensed by the Presbytery of Philadelphia, October 17, 1833, and ordained by the Presbytery of Newton at Greenwich, Warren Co., N. J., March 25, 1835, and installed on the same day as pastor of the church at that place. Here he labored sixteen years, during a part of which time, 1837-42, he was also Professor of Belles Lettres in Lafayette College at Easton, Pa. His ministry at Greenwich was intelligent, enterprising, earnest, laborious and fruitful. He was greatly beloved and honored, and his name is still held in veneration. He was released from this pastoral charge April 24, 1851, and became pastor of the F. Street Church in Washington, D. C., where he was installed May 11, 1851, and where he labored until released October 25, 1853. His labors in Washington were blessed, a goodly number were added to his church by conversion, a colony was sent off to form the Seventh Church, and a new impulse given by his presence and his work to the interests of his denomination in that city. A call having come to him, however, from the church at Hollidaysburgh, Pa., he accepted it, was installed over it November 21, 1853, and labored assiduously and successfully about seven years, until released November 25, 1860, because of serious indications that his health required a change of location. Just then, when feeling this need of a change, to his surprise he received from President

* The X. was no part of Dr. Junkin's original name, nor did it represent any word. It simply inserted by him to distinguish him from another person of the same name.

Buchanan a commission to act as chaplain in the United States Navy. He accepted it, and was stationed successively, between May, 1860 and November, 1864, at Philadelphia, Annapolis, Md., Newport, R. I., New York City, Portsmouth, N. H., and then went with his ship to the Gulf of Mexico. Here his health suffered seriously; he resigned his chaplaincy, accepted a call to become pastor of the North Church, Chicago, Ill., and was installed October 17, 1864. His stay in that city was short. The climate was exceedingly trying to him, and aggravated the painful rheumatic complaint under which he had long suffered. He was released by the Presbytery, May 15, 1866. But his ministry in Chicago, although short, and prosecuted under serious physical disability, was vigorous, and made on the minds of many, lasting impressions on the side of truth. Dr. Junkin now returned to Western Pennsylvania, the region in which he was born, and accepted a call from the church of New Castle, Pa., where he was installed September 13, 1866. This was his last pastoral charge, and here he labored nearly thirteen years, much of the time enduring acute pain, yet toiling with industry, fervor, and success. Many were added to his church, his congregation was enlarged, and believers were edified. At last he felt compelled to yield to disease and age, and was released July 1, 1879. After this his strength gradually diminished, and he died at the house of his son-in-law, the Rev. F. M. Woods, in Martinsburgh, W. Va., April 22d, 1880, of rheumatism, in the seventy-third year of his age. His end was entirely peaceful.

Dr. Junkin was a man of clear and strong convictions, and never hesitated to utter them strongly on what he believed to be fitting occasions. His positive manner often led to the belief that he was of a stern type of character, but he really had a warm, affectionate, tender heart. He was a conservative, faithful, brave defender of the faith; as a preacher instructive, scriptural, impressive; as a pastor tender, sympathizing and judicious. He was the author of several valuable volumes, and for many years was a prolific and interesting writer for the weekly religious press.

Dr. Junkin married April 20, 1835, Miss Jane McCleery, daughter of John McCleery, of Milton, Pa. She survived him. He left one son and two daughters.