

# Necrological Report

PRESENTED TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING,

MAY 9th, 1883.

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BY A COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION.



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securely upon the person and work of Christ. In that faith he lived and in that faith he died, at Bridgeton, N. J., March 19, 1883, in the seventy-second year of his age. From 1847 to 1863 he was a Director of Princeton Seminary.

Dr. Jones married, June 19, 1838, at Burlington, N. J., Sarah Ralston Chester, eldest daughter of the late Rev. John Chester, D.D., of Albany, N. Y. She, with four sons and one daughter, survived him.

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## XIX.

### JAMES ADAIR LYON, D. D.

James Adair Lyon, son of Ezekiel and Mary (Adair) Lyon, was born near Jonesboro, Washington Co., Tenn., April 19, 1814. He was received to the communion of the Jonesboro Presbyterian Church, on profession of his faith, in 1831. He was educated at Washington College, Tenn., from which institution he was graduated in 1832; went immediately to Princeton Seminary, and having spent four years in study there, was regularly graduated in 1836; was licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, April 26, 1836; was ordained as an evangelist by the Presbytery of Holston, Sept. 30, 1837; was stated supply of the churches of Rogersville and New Providence, Tenn., from Jan. 1, 1837 to Jan. 1, 1841. He then received a call to the Presbyterian Church at Columbus, Miss., and labored there as pastor elect, but without being installed, from Oct. 1841 to May 1847. The following year he spent in foreign travel. On his return he accepted a call to the Westminster Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, Mo., over which he was installed Nov. 15, 1848. He was released from this charge Dec. 10, 1850, and established a Select High School for Young Ladies, in St. Louis, which he taught for three years until Oct. 1854, when after an absence of seven year he was again called to his old charge in Columbus, Miss., and installed Jan. 7, 1855. He continued in charge of this Church sixteen years (from 1854 to 1870) and was released Oct. 7, 1870—having spent twenty-two years, in all, of faithful work in that field. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from his Alma Mater, Washington College, Tenn., in 1854.

In August 1870, he was elected Professor of Mental and Moral Science in the University of Mississippi, at Oxford, Miss., which

position he held for ten years, until June, 1881, when failing health compelled him to resign.

Dr. Lyon was a prolific writer and published a good many sermons, addresses, pamphlets, etc. For several years he was a regular contributor to the *Southern Presbyterian Quarterly Review*. For many years he was widely known as a prominent actor in educational and church affairs. In 1837-41 he was instrumental in the erection of a new Hall for his Alma Mater, Washington College, at an expense of \$10,000. In 1854 he originated and carried into successful execution the enterprise of founding the City University in the city of St. Louis, Mo., under the exclusive control of the Presbyterians of the city, for which he collected subscriptions to the amount of \$60,000. In 1860 he succeeded in establishing the professorship of "Natural Science in connection with Revealed Religion," in the Columbia, S. C. Seminary, and prevailed upon the late Hon. John Perkins, Jr., a member of the church of which he was pastor at Columbus, Miss., to endow said professorship by the cash gift of \$40,000. It is known as the "Perkins Professorship." In 1863 he was Moderator of the Southern General Assembly at Columbia, S. C. He was repeatedly elected to important positions in connection with educational and theological institutions, among them, to the Presidency of Washington College, in 1840, and to the chair of Didactic Theology, in the Theological Seminary at Danville, Ky., in 1873.

Dr. Lyon was a man of superior intellect and it was the rule of his life to do whatever he did, in the best possible way. He was always clear in his convictions, firm and decided in his stand. He was esteemed and respected in every community in which he lived, and many warm and devoted friends will cherish his memory. His declining days were full of peace. Paralysis rendered him unconscious for the last four or five days. He died at Holly Springs, Miss., at the residence of his son-in-law, Eagleton M. Smith, Esq., May 15, 1882, in his sixty-ninth year.

Dr. Lyon married at Jonesboro, Tenn., March 14, 1837, Miss Adelaide E. Deadrick, daughter of David A. Deadrick of Knoxville, Tenn. She, with three sons and three daughters, survived him.