

NECROLOGICAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

OF

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING

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BY A COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION.

PRINCETON, N. J.

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JOSEPH SMITH HEACOCK,

Son of Philander and Margaret (Smith) Heacock, was born in Gloversville, N. Y., Aug. 9, 1818; was graduated at Union College in 1843; entered Princeton Seminary the same year and took the regular course; was licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, Oct. 8, 1845, and ordained by Baltimore Presbytery, April 18, 1848, and installed as pastor of the Govane Chapel, where he had been laboring during the preceding year. His pastorate continued about a year and a half, after which he was for a short time stated supply at Black Rock, N. Y., a position which he left in 1851. Failure of his health, which a year of rest and travel failed to restore, obliged him to return to his native place and devote himself to business. He was active and exceedingly liberal in the support and promotion of the religious interests of the community. He died June 1, 1889, in the 71st year of his age, of heart disease.

He was married April 25, 1853, at West Haven, Conn., to Miss Charlotte M. Smith, who survives him, with two of their four children, a son and a daughter.

STEPHEN MATTOON, D.D.,

Son of Gershom and Nancy (Sayre) Mattoon, was born at Champion, Jefferson County, N. Y., May 5, 1815, and received his preparatory education at Geneva, N. Y., under Professor French. He united, by profession of his faith, with the Congregational Church of his native place at about 16 years of age; was graduated from Union College at Schenectady, N. Y., 1842; then spent one year in teaching at Sandy Hill, Washington Co., N. Y.; entered Princeton Theological Seminary in 1843; was regularly graduated therefrom in 1846, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Troy, N. Y., Feb. 11, 1846.

Having early and solemnly devoted himself to the Foreign Missionary work, Mr. Mattoon was ordained as an Evangelist by Troy Presbytery, Feb. 11, 1846, and sailed for Siam, July 20, 1846, arriving at Bangkok, March 22, 1847, after a journey of eight months. There he

labored with earnest devotion, indefatigable perseverance and wonderful success in pushing forward the missionary work, for nearly twenty years. He was the first to translate the New Testament into the Siamese language. While in that country he mainly resided and labored in Bangkok, where he was installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in that city in 1860, and released in 1866. In the latter year, on account of the state of Mrs. Mattoon's health, they returned to the United States. He soon after accepted a call to become pastor of the Presbyterian church at Ballston Spa, N. Y., over which he was installed, March 4, 1867, and from which he was released, Dec. 2, 1869, having been elected President of Biddle Institute at Charlotte, North Carolina (chartered as Biddle University in February, 1877), which position he continued to hold until 1885. He also filled a chair as Professor of Theology and Church Government in the same institution from 1870 to 1889; at the same time laboring as stated supply of New Hope Church, 1870-71; of Charlotte Church, 1871-78, and of Caldwell, Hopewell and Good Hope Churches from 1879-89.

During the last year of his life his health failed rapidly, owing to organic disease of the heart. He had gone to Clifton Springs, N. Y., for a time, where he improved somewhat, then started for his home at Charlotte, N. C., pausing on his way at the home of his married daughter, Mrs. W. E. Thomas, in Marion, Ohio. There he rapidly grew worse, and at length died peacefully, Aug. 15, 1889, in the 75th year of his age. The affection for him, far and near, especially among the colored people to whom, in Biddle University and its neighborhood, he had devoted the last twenty years of his life, was very strong. His remains were carried to Charlotte, N. C., and buried in the City Cemetery beside those of his wife.

Dr. Mattoon married at Cambridge, N. Y., June 3, 1846, Miss Mary Lowrie, daughter of George Lowrie. She faithfully shared his labors in Siam and afterward in Charlotte until her death, which occurred, Feb. 18, 1883. They left two daughters, one the wife of the Rev. W. E. Thomas of Marion, O., the other unmarried.

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