

THE HAMILTON LITERARY MONTHLY.

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JOHN C. FREMONT—THE PATHFINDER.

THE mighty peaks of the Rockies sentinel the prairies of the West. All the territory beyond, stretching from
 " * * * * Those continuous woods
 Where rolls the Oregon,"

to that deep worn canon where the Colorado struggles southward to the sea, is a land unknown. The early settlers of the Mississippi basin have heard strange tales of a distant fairy land called California. More than this, is a mystery, vague, uncertain, but enchanting. This was all that was known of the "garden of America" until five decades ago. The most sagacious statesmen of our country had drawn the "line of manifest destiny" at the Rockies.

Now, that line has passed from these grim summits, across the broad tableland of Nevada, to the rocky battlements of the Sierra, and on the peaceful harbor of the Golden Gate. The unknown land, with all its treasures of ore and soil and climate, has been given to the world.

The years clustering about 1840, were an era of revolution. In the commercial world ruin was at hand. The great progress of manufacture and transportation had produced a new crisis in the history of finance. The mechanical development, started

NECROLOGY.

CLASS OF 1841.

Rev. Dr. AUGUSTUS WARD LOOMIS, the veteran missionary among the Chinese, died at San Mateo, California, July 26, ending a life of seventy-six years, and an active and useful missionary work. Dr. Loomis was the oldest member of the Presbytery of San Francisco. His funeral services were conducted in the Chinese church on Stockton street, and were attended by a very large gathering, embracing most of the resident members of, Presbytery, fellow-workers of other denominations, and a large number of his own former Chinese students. The services were exceedingly impressive. After reading of the Scriptures by the Rev. A. J. Kerr, and a hymn, addresses were made first by a native of China in Chinese, then by the Rev. Thomas Fraser, D. D., in English, and lastly by the Rev. I. M. Condit, in Chinese, when the missionary of the Methodist church led in prayer in Chinese, and the Rev. J. Q. Adams in English. The organist and the pall-bearers were Chinese, and at the grave a Chinese choir sang (in their own language) "Nearer my God to Thee," most beautifully and touchingly.

Augustus Ward Loomis was born September 4, 1816, in Andover, Hartford county, Conn. His father, Seba Loomis, was of Huguenot stock, with a name that has passed through changes, from Lomaz to Lumas and Loomis. His mother, Jerusha Brewster, was a direct descendant from Elder William Brewster, of the church of Plymouth. When A. W. Loomis was about eighteen months old the family removed to Cazenovia, N. Y., and purchased a farm half a mile south of the village, which is still occupied by a younger brother. There was an excellent academy in Cazenovia, and A. W. Loomis at eleven years of age began his preparation for college. Not pleased with the thought of preaching the gospel, he begged to be allowed to leave school, and go into business in Albany. The prayers of father and mother followed the boy to Albany, and after a while he united with the Second Presbyterian Church, of which Rev. Dr. William B. Sprague was pastor. He returned to Cazenovia, and completed his preparation for the Sophomore class. After his graduation he entered Princeton Theological Seminary, and finished three years of study.

With three of his classmates, he was appointed a missionary to China, although he had offered himself for Africa. He was married May 18, 1844, in Clinton, N. Y., to Miss Mary Ann Luce, a sister of Harmony Luce, afterwards Mrs. Frederick Gridley, and Sophronia Luce, now the wife of Rev. Dr. Henry Kendall, of the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions. Thirty-five days later, June 22, 1844, they sailed for China, via Cape of Good Hope, with Rev. Dr. A. P. Happer, now of Canton, as one of their companions. After a voyage of four months, they arrived at Macao, October 22. Four months were spent at Macao in studying the language. Then they sailed up the coast to Ningpo, one of the five ports which had been opened by a recent treaty. For eighteen months their home was in Chusan, a large island off the coast from Ningpo, where Mr.

Loomis conducted a school for boys, preaching twice each Sabbath to English soldiers and foreign residents. After his return to Ningpo, Mr. Loomis was fully occupied with missionary work, preaching on the street and in city chapels, organizing day schools and exploring the surrounding country.

Six years of labor in a malarious climate resulted in broken health, and in 1850 Mr. and Mrs. Loomis returned to America.

The spring of 1852 finds Mr. and Mrs. Loomis filling a vacancy in the mission in the Creek Indian Nation, where the superintendent had been compelled by ill health to resign. Here a busy year was spent in the care of a manual labor boarding school of fifty Indian boys and as many Indian girls. A year and a half with the Creek Indians was followed by six years of pastoral labor in St. Charles, Missouri, in Edgington, Millersburgh and other places in Illinois. In 1859, in response to an urgent appeal, missionary work was undertaken among the 120,000 Chinamen in California.

This work is unlike that of any other field, at home or abroad. It aims to carry the gospel tidings to Chinamen in cities and towns, on ranches, and in mines. Dr. Loomis organized Sabbath schools, churches and evening schools. He trained assistants and colporteurs to travel from town to town, and from ranch to ranch. He furnished Chinese preachers and colporteurs to the Sandwich Islands, and even to China.

As is well known, Chinamen in California, from first to last, have been hated and persecuted by a large portion of the people. Of course the missionary defended them, and this alone was work enough for one man. The persecuted Chinamen looked to their missionary to befriend them at the police station and in the courts, to release them from jail when wrongfully imprisoned, to defend them in the newspapers and magazines, to assist them in ways and times without number. About twelve years ago, to the great joy of Mr. Loomis, Col. Frederick A. Bee was appointed consul for the Chinese in California. This name will be remembered by the survivors of the class of 1841. In their college days he was a young man living with his mother on College Hill, in a house where the library now stands. A better man for this office could not be found. Thoroughly acquainted with the duties of this consulship, true to the interests of his trust and the people he represents, and all the time a true American, he goes nobly forward in the discharge of his duties, regardless of Chinese haters and truculent newspapers.

The first wife of Mr. Loomis died in Cazenovia in the winter of 1867; in June, 1873, he was married to Mrs. Mary M. Akers, widow of Dr. Akers, formerly of Newark, N. J. In 1873 he received the honorary degree of D. D. from the trustees of Hamilton College. His life in California has been a crowded chapter of nearly thirty-two years, with two or three visits in the Eastern States, and a year of rest in Italy, France, and Great Britain.

The Chinese Presbyterian Church in San Francisco has received over three hundred members. Other Chinese churches have been equally prosperous. Dr. Loomis has been a prolific author as well as a teacher

and preacher. Among his published books are "Confucius and the Chinese Classics," "Scenes in Chusan," "Scenes in the Indian Country," "The Child a Hundred Years Old," "Profits of Godliness," "How to Die Happy."

Rev. Dr. Thomas Fraser, a life long associate, writes: "A marked and strong feature in the character of Dr. Loomis was thorough conscientiousness. Nature gave him a strong, brave and manly soul. Divine grace and truth had quickened, purified and enlightened his conscience, making it exceedingly sensitive and prompt in its response to the demands of duty. With him the one supreme thing was duty. He sought not pleasure or prominence. He was not ambitious, had no aspirations beyond doing his work, cherishing his faith, pressing toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. His religion before the world consisted in the faithful performance of duty."

MARRIED.

HIGLEY—HALEY—In New York City, Tuesday, July 21, 1891, Hon. WARREN HIGLEY, '62, and CHRISTIANA J. HALEY.

HITCHCOCK—HEATH—At Ithaca, N. Y., on Wednesday, August 19, 1891, CHARLES HENRY HITCHCOCK, '79, of Binghamton, N. Y., and LAURA ESTELLE HEATH, of Ithaca, N. Y.

WHITE—RUSSELL—In Knoxville, Tenn., on Thursday, July 23, 1891, EDWARD WELCH WHITE, '79, and Miss ANNIE E. RUSSELL, both of Knoxville, Tenn.

WILLIAMS—HUGHES—In the Presbyterian church, in New York Mills, on Tuesday, June 30, 1891, by Rev. Dr. THOMAS B. HUDSON, '51, of Clinton, FRANK SESSIONS WILLIAMS, '81, of Utica, and Miss MARY JOSEPHINE HUGHES, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Hughes, of New York Mills.

KENDALL—FIELD—In Jackson, Mich., on Tuesday, June 30, 1891, Professor CALVIN NOYES KENDALL, '82, of East Saginaw, Mich., and Miss ALLA FIELD, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard H. Field, of Jackson, Mich.

PHILLIPS—BLISS—At Minneapolis, Minn., on Wednesday, July 1, 1891, Rev. CHARLES HERBERT PHILLIPS, '82, of Cummings, North Dakota, and MARY FRANCES BLISS, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Bliss, of Minneapolis, Minn.

KING—JONES—At Youngstown, Ohio, on Tuesday, September 1, 1891, Rev. Professor ROBERT AUGUSTUS KING, '85, of Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind., and Miss KATHERINE JONES, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Asahel W. Jones, of Youngstown, Ohio.

MOORE—CATE—At Peru, N. Y., on Thursday, July 30, 1891, PHILLIP NURSE MOORE, '86, of Auburn Theological Seminary, and MARY JANE CATE, of Peru, N. Y.