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NECROLOGICAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

OF

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 5TH, 1903.

BY THE SECRETARY.

PRINCETON, N. J.

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WILLIAM JANES WRIGHT, Ph.D., LL.D., D.D.,

Son of John and Mary (Sperry) Wright, was born Aug. 3, 1831, in Weybridge, Vt. His preparatory studies were pursued in Castleton, Vt., and he graduated from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., in 1857. While a college student he made a public profession of his faith in the First Presbyterian Church of Fairfield, N. Y., at the age of twenty-five. After his graduation from Union he spent two years in teaching and in the practice of law, and then about five months in Union Theological Seminary, New York. He entered Princeton Seminary in February, 1860, remaining more than two years and graduating in 1862. He was licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, April 2, 1861, and ordained an evangelist by the same, June 20, 1863, having been appointed a chaplain in the U. S. Army. As such he served until September, 1865. From December, 1865, until September, 1867, he was co-pastor with the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, of the church at Ringoes, N. J. He then was pastor of the church at Pomeroy, O., beginning work there March 29, and being installed Oct. 11, and released May 1, 1871. The two years, 1873-75, were spent in study in Europe, mainly in the British Museum and the University of Edinburgh. From March to September, 1875, he supplied the church at Wellsburg, W. Va. He was professor of mathematics in Wilson Female College, Chambersburg, Pa., from September, 1876, until June, 1877. After this he resided as an evangelist in Cape May, N. J., and in Burlington, Vt. He was pastor of the church at Morris Plains, N. J., from Feb. 22, 1882, until Sept. 18, 1883, and resided without change at Hyannis Port, Mass., from 1884 till 1887, when he was called to the chair of metaphysics in Westminster College, Mo. He continued to fulfill the duties of this chair until 1899, at which time he was honorably retired from the active duties of the ministry. During a part of the time when he was a professor in Westminster College he was also its vice president. He continued his residence in Fulton, where the college was seated, after his retirement until his death, which occurred Feb. 26, 1903, of bladder and kidney troubles, in the 72d year of his age. He was buried at Fulton. He received

the degree of Ph.D. from Union College in 1876 ; that of LL.D. from Westminster College in 1882 ; and that of D.D. from Shurtleff College, Illinois, in 1890. Dr. Wright was a special student of mathematics and published a number of treatises on particular phases of this branch of learning. Among these were "Demonstration of Sturm's Theorem," a treatise on "Determinants," on "Trilinear Coordinates," and on "Invariants." His attainments were recognized by his being the first American to be elected to membership in the London Mathematical Society. He was also a member of the British National Society, a society organized to resist the encroachments of Catholicism. He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Wright was married, March 21, 1859, at Orange, Oswego, N. Y., to Miss Julia McNair, who with one son and one daughter survives him. His wife is well known as an author, under her name, Julia McNair Wright.

WILLIAM ALFRED McATEE, D.D.,

Son of William Brady and Anna Amanda (Boyd) McAtee, was born June 25, 1838, in Smithsburg, Md. He made a public profession of his faith in the Presbyterian Church of Lower Tuscarora, Pa., at the age of fifteen. His preparatory studies were pursued at Smithsburg with George Pierson and in the Tuscarora Academy at Academia, Pa. He entered Lafayette College in 1856, spending two years there, and then went to Princeton as a junior, graduating from that College in 1859. The next two years were spent in the Theological Seminary at Danville, Ky., and he entered the Seminary at Princeton in 1861 as a senior, remaining there a year as a regular student. He was licensed by the Presbytery of Transylvania, April 13, 1861. From 1861 to 1865 he was tutor of rhetoric in Princeton College. He was stated supply of the Seventh Street Church, Harrisburg, Pa., from 1867 to 1869. He was ordained by the Presbytery of Washington City, May 10, 1871, and was stated supply of the First Church of Alexandria, Va., from 1868 until his installation