

NECROLOGICAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

OF

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 10TH, 1904.

BY THE SECRETARY.

PRINCETON, N. J.

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1904.

WILLIAM LAURENCE LEDWITH, D.D.,

Son of William Medkirk and Jane (Bryce) Ledwith, was born March 14, 1850, in Brownsville, Pa. He made a public confession of his faith in the Presbyterian Church of Brownsville, Jan. 26, 1868, at the age of seventeen. His preparatory studies were pursued in the Brownsville public school, at the Tuscarora Academy, Pa., and in the University of West Virginia, and he graduated from Princeton University in 1874. Entering the Seminary at Princeton in the fall of the same year, he took the full three years' course there, graduating in 1877. He was licensed by the Presbytery of Redstone, April 26, 1876, and ordained by the Presbytery of Westminster June 27, 1877, being at the same time installed pastor of the Bellevue Church at Gap, Pa. He was released from this charge Sept. 26, 1883, that he might accept a call to the South Church, Philadelphia, over which he was installed, Nov. 22, 1883. This relation was dissolved March 7, 1892, on his accepting a call to the Tioga Church in the same city. This pastoral relation was formally constituted April 5, 1892, and continued most harmoniously and successfully until his death, Feb. 28, 1904, in Philadelphia, of pneumonia, within five days of the completion of his 54th year. He was buried in the West Laurel Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia. He received the honorary degree of D.D. from Princeton University in 1894. Dr. Ledwith supplied the Greensborough Church, Pa., during his first Seminary vacation, May-July, 1875, and the Central City Church, Colo., during his second, June-August, 1876. He was moderator of the Westminster Presbytery, and twice moderator of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. He was a member for many years of the Board of Publication and S. S. Work, a Director of the Ministers' Fund, Philadelphia, and the most efficient librarian of the Presbyterian Historical Society. He was a commissioner to the General Assembly in Saratoga Springs, 1883, and in the same place in 1890 and 1896. He wrote frequently for the religious press, largely on subjects of a specially literary character. He was warmly interested in Princeton Seminary and rarely missed the annual meetings of its Alumni Association, of whose Executive Committee he was at one time a member.

Dr. Ledwith was married, Oct. 25, 1886, in Philadelphia, to Sarah Walker Cooper, who with one son and one daughter survives him.

CHARLES SYDNEY CONVERSE,

Son of the Rev. Dr. Amasa and Flavia (Booth) Converse, was born Jan. 1, 1847, in Philadelphia, Pa. He made a public confession of his faith in the Green Hill Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, at the age of ten. He studied, preparatory to college, under the guidance of his father at Richmond, Va., and spent one year at Hampden-Sidney College, completing his college course in Princeton University, from which he graduated in 1868. He then taught for nine months in Prince Edward County, Va.; became the agent in charge of the Richmond office of the Christian Observer of Louisville; read law, meanwhile, and having been admitted to the Bar practiced law in Richmond from June, 1870, until January, 1874. He then studied theology and Hebrew privately and took the second year of his theological course in Union Seminary, Va. He entered the Seminary at Princeton in 1875 as a senior, completing his course there and graduating in 1876. He was licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, April 25, 1876, and ordained by the same Presbytery, May 8, 1876, being at the same time installed pastor of the United First Amwell Church, Ringoes, N. J. He was released from this charge Sept. 8, 1881. He then was stated supply of the Morris Memorial Church, Rawlins, Wy., from October, 1881, until November, 1883, under the Board of Home Missions, and after this under the same Board he supplied the Westminster Church, Devil's Lake, N. Dak., from December, 1883, until July, 1886. Returning east, he became stated supply of the Connecticut Farms Church, Union, N. J., in October, 1886, and was installed its pastor, May 4, 1887. This relation was dissolved April 17, 1900, a few months after serious ill health had compelled him to give up work and go to Clifton Springs, N. Y., in hope of recovery. This hope, however, was disappointed, and he died at Clifton Springs, June 28, 1903, of a cerebral tumor, in the 57th year of his age. He was buried at Union, N. J. Mr. Converse wrote a "History of the