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1884.

REV. DAVID H. PORTER, D. D.

DR. PORTER was the son of the Rev. Francis H. Porter, and a brother of the Rev. Abner A. Porter, D. D., the Rev. Rufus K. Porter, and the Rev. Joseph D. Porter. He was born at Selma, Alabama, May 13th, 1830; became a professing member of the Presbyterian Church at fifteen years of age; was graduated at the South Carolina College, with the second honor of his class, in December, 1852; entered this Theological Seminary January 6th, 1853, and was graduated at the same June 28th, 1855; was licensed to preach by the Charleston Presbytery April 1st, 1855; from July 6th of the same year preached for the First Presbyterian church, Augusta, Ga., for three months; was by the Presbytery of Georgia ordained to the ministry, and installed pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Savannah, Ga., in November, 1855. His pastoral relation to this church was never dissolved until his death. During the summer of 1861 he alternated with Dr. I. S. K. Axson in preaching to the Confederate garrison in Fort Pulaski; passed the year 1862 and part of 1863 as an invalid at Beech Island, S. C.; in the fall of 1863 became chaplain to the 5th Regiment, Georgia Cavalry, serving till the end of the war. In the summer of 1865 he resumed pastoral labor, in which he continued until disabled by his last illness. During this period he bent his energies toward the erection of a church-edifice, the dedication of which took place June 9th, 1872, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Dr. B. M. Palmer, the first pastor of the church.

His last sickness was protracted, but was borne in faith and meekness. Jesus was with his dying servant. His end was peace. He died on the Lord's day, December 21st, 1873, in the forty-fourth year of his age. His funeral was attended by ministers and people of all religious persuasions, who lamented his departure, and his body was buried at Laurel Grove Cemetery, Savannah. He left a widow—the daughter of ruling elder Samuel Clarke, of the Beech Island church—who has since followed him to Canaan's land, and several children. He published one

sermon, the subject being the relation of the State to Religion, which elicited high praise for ability from Dr. Thornwell through the *Southern Presbyterian Review*. He was graceful in person and pleasant in manners; was an affectionate husband and father, a polished writer, a faithful and efficient presbyter, and a vigorous, attractive, and successful preacher.

J. L. GIRARDEAU.

REV. JOSEPH D. PORTER,

THE son of the Rev. Francis H. Porter, was born about the year 1821, and entered Columbia Seminary in the fall of 1845, completing his theological course in 1848. He was licensed probably by one of the Presbyteries in the Synod of Alabama, and in April, 1850, was ordained by the Presbytery of Tombeckbee. In the fall of 1852 he was received by the Presbytery of South Alabama. While a member of that body, he served Laurel church at one time, and for a period of three years the Baldwin church. From 1862 to 1864 he was a chaplain in the Confederate army, being stationed at Mobile. In 1868 he was received by the Presbytery of Central Texas, where he labored six years, supplying frontier settlements and destitute churches. In the fall of 1874 he became a member of Eastern Texas Presbytery, and took charge of the Augusta church and several missionary points in Houston County. He labored here two years, building up the Augusta church and organising Cochim church. In 1876 he became the evangelist for the southeastern counties of the Presbytery. In this work he continued two years, building up decaying churches, searching out isolated saints, and preaching at many points never before visited by a Presbyterian minister. His extended missionary explorations on horseback into the distant and almost inaccessible interior, were of great value in guiding the work of the Presbytery.

A few months before his death, he took charge of the San