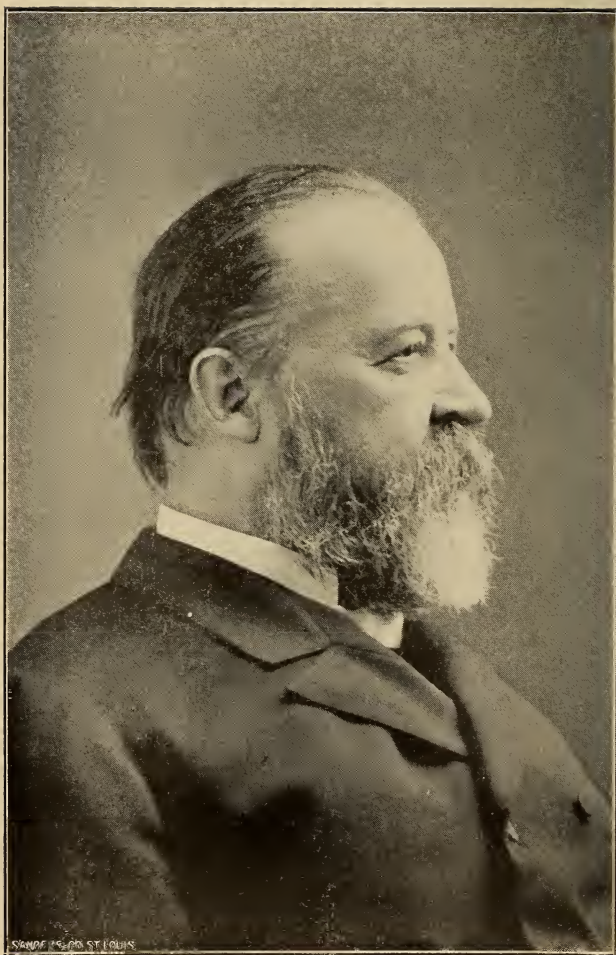


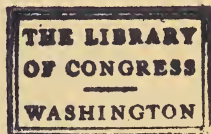


James H. Brookes.

(From his last photograph.)

JAMES H. BROOKES:

A MEMOIR.



BY
DAVID RIDDLE WILLIAMS.

WITH AN APPENDIX.



PUBLISHED FOR DR. BROOKES' FAMILY, BY J. W. ALLEN, D.D., MANAGER
ST. LOUIS DEPOSITORY,
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

1897-6462

BUSCHART BROS. PRINT. ST. LOUIS, MO.
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BY S. O. BROOKES AND D. R. WILLIAMS.

DR. BROOKES' PERSONALITY.

There is probably no force or combination of forces in human character so admirable as that which we sum up in saying that a man has a strong personality. And when that personality is constantly exerted for righteousness, we have the noblest of earthly influences. From my earliest acquaintance with Doctor Brookes I was impressed with the tremendous force of his personality. It was never a question merely of what he thought, or knew, or felt, it was ever what he was. His thinking, feeling, knowing, were all fused into his personality, and he exerted that personality under the influence of the Holy Spirit for the service of God.

It was my privilege to know him very intimately and to be bound to him by a very close and tender tie, and it is a pleasure to testify to the largeness and breadth, the simplicity and consistency of his nature. It is hard to say whether the strongest impression he made upon me was that of a singularly simple and sincere man, or of a man of great energy and force. Simplicity is the unfailing mark of truly great men, and he had it in a very high degree. It was seen in his love for the companionship of little children, in his abounding sympathy, in his impatience of sham. The forcefulness of his character breathed in his every movement; and but for the sincerity and simplicity of his life might easily have overbalanced his other qualities. As it was, in life, in speech, in the abundant fruitage of his pen, he bore a strong and assuring testimony to the truth whose minister he was.

Such a life as his was in itself "a gospel for an age of doubt." His faith was not only sublime, it was contagious. His frank and fearless mind not only cherished no mental reservations, but sought no subtle and uncertain forms of expression. Those who heard him know that he had given all he was wholly, absolutely, to the dear Lord who died for him.

Not only was this so, but he was able, as few men are, to give a reason for the faith that was in him. His mastery of

the English Bible was almost unique. His Bible readings were convincing, consoling, compelling in their richness, completeness and consistency. He knew what he was seeking to set forth, he knew where the evidence was to be found, and he knew how to present it. Herein his large and logical mind found ample scope and was scarcely less effective than in the greater field of the pulpit in which he was so conspicuously blessed by the love of his people and the favor of his God.

As I think of him, the words which Tennyson uses in speaking of Lazarius rise in my mind:

“Behold a man raised up by Christ.”

Not from the grave, but from sin and worldliness, was he raised up to the full stature of the man who in Jesus Christ lives and labors. Such might have been the daily comment on his life.

ETHELBERT D. WARFIELD.

Lafayette College.

“A FAITHFUL PROPHET.”*

Dr. Brookes was a man of noble personal qualities, and most tender and affectionate in all social relations. For twenty years our acquaintance was most intimate, and chiefly in searching and seeking the meaning of the prophetic Scriptures. He has been the means of reaching and saving many who were in darkness and sorrow, through his most faithful gospel teachings, and especially by the words of sympathy and comfort to mourners he so frequently and tenderly expressed.

He has always and with notable power vindicated the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, in their original tongues, to be the very words of the Holy Spirit by the men who wrote and spake them, and thus to be eternally the Word of God.

*This, and some other articles in the appendix, appeared in the memorial number (June, '97) of *The Truth*.