



MEMORIAL VOLUME

OF THE

SEMI-CENTENNIAL

OF THE

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AT

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA.

COLUMBIA, S. C.

PRINTED AT THE PRESBYTERIAN PUBLISHING HOUSE.

1884.

and conscientious in proving his opinions, he was uncompromising in sustaining them. Elastic in spirit, and free from all morbid tendencies of mind, the eminent consistency of both his character and life made him every way reliable. His piety sincere and correct, clear in his own religious experience, and assured of his call to the gospel ministry, he pressed through great difficulties in entering upon it, and pursued his covenanted work through seasons of embarrassment and trial which would have staggered a man of feebler purpose or less devoted zeal.

In the year 1845 he assumed the pastoral care of the church in Beech Island, where his labors were successfully prosecuted for several years. In the autumn of 1850 he was induced to resign his charge and take the oversight of a missionary church in the city of Augusta, Ga. Here the wants of a large and increasing family compelled him to open a female school, the labors of which, added to his ministerial duties, which were still unremittingly fulfilled, did much to enfeeble a constitution naturally hardy, and made him a more easy prey to the malignant disease which speedily assailed him. He was seized with the most acute type of rheumatism, which, pervading his whole frame, stretched him upon the rack of unceasing torture; and after exhausting all the skill and attention of medical advisers, terminated in dropsy, which ended his days. He died in joy, triumphing over his last enemy, even when falling beneath his shaft. With the foretaste of heaven in his soul, on a peaceful Sabbath morning, he entered the Sabbath of perfect rest in the temple on high.

B. M. PALMER.

REV. JOHN C. HUMPHRY

JOHN C. HUMPHRY was born in Darien, Genesee County, N. Y., July 3d, 1829, and died of consumption in Mavilla, N. Y., September 14th, 1859, in his thirty-first year. He lies interred in his native place.

He was the youngest of nine children of William and Susan

(Woodward) Humphry. Both his parents and all his brothers and sisters, except one brother and one sister—Mrs. J. N. Danforth, missionary to China—preceded him to the spirit land. Consumption was hereditary in the family.

The parents of John C. Humphry being members of the Old School Presbyterian Church, were diligent during life in bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The father, however, died when John was only eight years old, and the mother when he was a child of only thirteen years. The seeds of their pious training, however, remained with him, and in early manhood he became a devoted follower of Christ. His preparation for entering College was made at Genesee and Wyoming Seminary at Alexander, eight miles from his birth-place. Before entering College he visited Georgia in search of health, teaching a private school, and at the same time prosecuted his own studies during two winters. In the summer of 1850 he entered the Senior class of Genesee College at Lima, N. Y., but before the close of the term was compelled to leave and seek a milder climate. He returned to Bellevue, Ga., and for the next two years again had charge of a private school. In the meantime he became a communicant in the church of Ephesus, near Bellevue, of which church Rev. Francis McMurry was then pastor. During the two subsequent years he taught a school in Griffin, Ga.

In the autumn of 1854 he entered upon his theological studies in the Seminary at Columbia, S. C. September 10th, 1856, he was licensed to preach the gospel by Flint River Presbytery. Having completed the entire curriculum of study, he was recommended by the Faculty of the Seminary to the First Presbyterian church in Augusta, Ga., and supplied it during the winter very acceptably. He made many warm friends there, who mourned his early death. Having been transferred to the care of Hopewell Presbytery, he was by that body called to the evangelistic work and ordained at Augusta, Ga., May 2d, 1858.

September 30th, 1857, he married Miss Louisa S. Jackman, of Elma, Erie County, N. Y.

After his ordination, during the summer and early autumn of 1858, he travelled, accompanied by his young wife, and preached

in nearly all the churches of Hopewell Presbytery, which then embraced the territory now included in the two Presbyteries of Athens and Augusta. He was in very feeble health at that time, and when not on the road, usually went from his bed into the pulpit, and then back from the pulpit to his bed. Early in September, 1858, he spent a week with the writer laboring in Hebron church. When he arose in the pulpit, pale, emaciated, and almost haggard in appearance, with the hectic spots upon his thin cheeks, he seemed scarcely able to stand; but as he became warmed up with his absorbing theme, his feeble frame appeared to dilate, his haggard face glowed, and the whole man became intensely animated with life and power. All his sermons were forcible exhibitions of gospel truth, and faithful and pungent appeals to the judgments and consciences of his hearers, and many of them contained passages of the sublimest eloquence.

Toward the close of the year 1858 he became too feeble to preach, and his labors on earth ceased for ever. He spent the following winter in Augusta, Ga., in a state of great bodily exhaustion. In March, 1859, he returned to New York, and, with his wife, spent the following summer with his wife's relatives in Mavilla, Erie County, in that State. After lingering in much pain and weakness, he peacefully passed into his everlasting rest, September 14th, 1859.

Rev. John C. Humphry was about the medium height, very slender, with blue eyes, light brown hair, fair complexion, and pleasing address. He was a man of great amiability and excellent social qualities. But his earnest active piety and his devoted zeal in his ministry were the crowning glories of his character. His race was short, his work was soon done, but it was well done, and now he rests. GROVES H. CARTLEDGE.