

NECROLOGICAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

OF

Princeton Theological Seminary,

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING,

April 25, 1876.

BY A COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION.

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man of strong, clear, and logical intellect, firm and tenacious in his convictions whether in relation to doctrine or duty, a highly acceptable, interesting and instructive preacher, of deep, humble and devoted piety, and greatly beloved by all who knew him.

XIV. REV. GEORGE WILLIAM LEYBURN.

The Rev. George W. Leyburn was born at Lexington, Va., Jan. 2, 1809. He was a son of John Leyburn, Esq., a highly esteemed elder of the Presbyterian Church, and was brought into the church under the ministry of the Rev. George A. Baxter, D. D., in the year 1822. Nine years subsequently, during another revival, he determined to devote himself to the work of the ministry. His collegiate course was partly taken at Washington College, Va. (now Washington and Lee University), in his native town, and the remainder at Princeton College, where he was graduated in 1829. Two years subsequently he entered this Theological Seminary, where he spent nearly two years, at the same time filling the post of tutor in the College. Thence he went to Union Theological Seminary, Prince Edward county, Va., where his course of study was completed. He was licensed to preach at Waynesboro, Va., by Lexington Presbytery in 1835. Having offered himself as a missionary, he was accepted by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and sailed for the Turkish island of Scio in the autumn of 1836. His friend, the Rev. Samuel R. Houston, had been laboring there, but by the time Mr. Leyburn reached the East, that mission had been transferred to Areopolis, the capitol of Laconia, the Spartan province of the Peloponnesus. Here Mr. Leyburn labored, amid many discouragements and difficulties, until his health failing and insuperable obstacles having been thrown in the way by the government of Greece, he was compelled reluctantly to abandon a field in which he had become most deeply interested. But as a distinguished result of his instructions and prayers, Mr. Leyburn was permitted to see brought to Christ, one who through his agency was subsequently educated in America for the ministry, and who for years past has been a most intelligent and vigorous laborer for the Evangelization of Greece—Dr. Demetrius Michael Kalopothakes. After returning to this country, Mr. Leyburn's impaired health prevented his undertaking the pastoral office, but he was always at work—sometimes among the colored people, sometimes as agent of some benevolent society, and largely and most efficiently among the soldiers during the civil war. After the

restoration of peace, he went to Appomatox Court House, Va., and on the field recently wasted by hostile armies, he succeeded in organizing a church and erecting two church edifices.

But though years had elapsed since this devoted man had left the foreign field, his heart was still there. He thought, and talked, and wrote of Greece. When finally his son, the Rev. G. L. Leyburn, who was born in Greece, determined to relinquish his pastorate in Winchester, Va., and go thither, the father's heart leaped with joy on learning that he himself could go likewise. Accordingly, in April, 1875, father and son, with their families, sailed from Norfolk, Va., under the direction of the Foreign Missionary Committee of the Southern Presbyterian Church. Having retained his knowledge of modern Greek, Mr. Leyburn immediately entered on his work at Athens, and after a few weeks set off on a tour in the Turkish empire. At Salonica (the ancient Thessalonica) he was greatly debilitated by some ministerial labors he performed. So much was he encouraged by the prospects at that point that he determined to settle there. But what he had chosen as his field of labor, was destined to furnish him a grave. He was taken ill from exposure in returning from a trip to Cassandra, and after a short illness entered into the heavenly rest, August 14, 1875, at the age of sixty-six years.

XV. REV. ISAAC J. HENDERSON, D. D.

The Rev. Isaac J. Henderson, D. D., was born at Natchez, Miss., Jan. 6, 1812, and belonged to a family well-known in the region of Natchez and New Orleans. He was graduated at Jefferson College in 1831 and entered Princeton Theological Seminary in 1833. Here he took the full three year's course of study, and was greatly beloved by his fellow-students. Soon after his license he was sent by the Synod of Mississippi to explore and preach in the destitutions within its bounds. In doing this he spent two years in Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana. Having landed at Galveston with a design to explore Texas, he found there a weak and disunited church, The people urged him to remain, and gave him a unanimous call. This he accepted, but as there was no fit place of worship, he traveled about eight months, raised funds and secured the erection of the first Presbyterian church in Galveston. He remained in Texas about seven years, when the effects of the climate upon his health compelled him to change his place of residence. About 1850 he accepted a unanimous call to Jackson, Miss., where he labored two years. In the Autumn of 1852, he accepted a call to