

Necrological Report

PRESENTED TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING,

MAY 9th, 1883.

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BY A COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION.



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XX.

JAMES OWEN STEDMAN, D.D.

James Owen Stedman, son of Elisha and Mary (Owen) Stedman, was born in Fayetteville, N. C., Oct. 31, 1811. His parents were faithful members of the Presbyterian Church, and early consecrated their son to God. He pursued his preparatory studies in the schools of his native place; was received to the communion of the Fayetteville Presbyterian Church, on profession of his faith at the age of twenty-one years; was graduated from the University of North Carolina, June, 1832; entered Princeton Seminary a few months after, where he remained four years (1832-36); was licensed by the Presbytery of Philadelphia, April 20, 1836; was stated supply to the First Church, Baltimore, Md, for six months, 1836; labored for some time in missionary work at Waynesboro, N. C.; was ordained and installed pastor of the Church in Tuscumbia, Ala., by the Presbytery of North Alabama, Nov. 1, 1837, in which charge he remained until 1845. From 1845 to 1851 he was stated supply of the Church of Wilmington, N. C., when, his wife's health failing, he removed to Philadelphia for medical treatment. During the years 1852 and 1853 he was stated supply of the First Church in Chester, Pa. While at Chester he received a call to the First Presbyterian Church of Memphis, Tenn. Before accepting it he went to Memphis and served the Church as stated supply, from May 10, 1854 until his installation, May 7, 1856. This relation was dissolved July 2, 1868. It was while occupying this post that he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from La Grange Synodical College.

In July, 1868, he organized the Alabama Street Presbyterian Church, in Memphis, and took charge of it as pastor elect. He never consented to be installed, but served the church faithfully, as stated supply, until April, 1880, when his failing health constrained him to retire from the active work of the ministry. He had repeatedly offered to give up the care of the church, but such was the devotion of its members that they would not consent to it until this time.

As a preacher, Dr. Stedman was earnest, able, sound and effec-

tive. He loved to preach the gospel at all times and in all places. The old, old story of Jesus and His love was ever new and ever refreshing to him. As a pastor, visiting from house to house, especially when sickness and sorrow had entered the abodes of his people, his ministrations were abundant, welcome and effective. Dr. Stedman was a sufferer for several years, and at the last a very great sufferer. But he endured his sufferings as seeing Him who is invisible. He died from paralysis and added injuries from an accidental fall, in Memphis, Tenn., April 28, 1882, in the seventy-first year of his age.

Dr. Stedman married,—1. In Philadelphia, Nov. 8, 1836, Miss Margaretta B. Harbert. She died at Chester, Pa., Aug. 1, 1853. 2. At Wilmington, Del., Jan. 3, 1855, Miss Mary A. Hayden. She survived him. He left three daughters and one son.

XXI.

ROBERT PATTERSON DU BOIS.

Robert Patterson Du Bois, son of the Rev. Uriah Du Bois, and Mrs. Martha (Patterson) Du Bois, was born at Doylestown, Bucks County, Pa., August 19, 1805. His father was the founder and first pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Doylestown. He received his preparatory education at the Union Academy, Doylestown, Pa., under his father's instruction, and his collegiate education in the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated July 29, 1824. He spent two years in the study of medicine (1824-1826); was Principal of the Chester County Academy from 1826 to 1828, and Teacher in the Doylestown Academy from 1828 to 1834. He was received to the communion of the Doylestown Presbyterian Church, on profession of his faith, in 1832, at the age of twenty-seven years. Having determined to enter the ministry, he spent one year (1834-1835) in Princeton Seminary, and about one year in theological study under his brother-in-law, the Rev. Silas M. Andrews, D. D., pastor of the Doylestown Church. He was licensed by the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia (Synodical), October 8, 1835. After a year spent in study, travelling and preaching, he began what proved to be his life work in the Presbyterian Church of