

Necrological Report

PRESENTED TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING,

MAY 9th, 1883.

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installed there December 24, 1831, and served that church industriously, faithfully and successfully for eighteen years. From this pastorate, his only one, he was released October 18, 1849. Early in 1850 he removed to Jamaica, L. I., where he opened a boarding-school for boys, in which employment he continued until failing health compelled him to abandon it in 1867. Since that time he has lived at Jamaica in comfortable retirement. About the first week in May, 1882, he was attacked with a bronchial affection which confined him to his house only about a week. He died calmly and peacefully, May 14, 1882, in his eighty-fourth year. He was a faithful minister of the gospel while able to labor, and after that, in honorable retirement awaited in strong faith the coming of the Master whom he had delighted to serve.

Mr. Huntting married October 11, 1831, Miss Catharine Ogden, daughter of Joseph and Hannah Ogden, of Elizabethtown, N. J., with whom he celebrated October 11, 1881, the fiftieth anniversary of his marriage. She survived him. He left two sons and two daughters. One of his sons, Rev. James M. Huntting, is a Princeton Seminary Alumnus.

XII.

GEO. WASHINGTON MUSGRAVE, D.D., LL.D.

George Washington Musgrave, son of Joseph and Catharine (Schaumenkessel) Musgrave, was born in the city of Philadelphia, Oct. 19, 1804. His early scholastic education was received at the classical academy of the Rev. Samuel B. Wylie, D.D., where he was fitted to enter the junior class of the College of New Jersey. The condition of his health compelled him to forego the advantages of that institution, and he continued his studies privately. His parents were members of the Second Presbyterian Church, and he there enjoyed the pastoral care and catechetical instruction of the Rev. Ashbel Green, D.D. and the Rev. Jacob J. Janeway, D.D. After the death of his father, which took place when he was quite young, his mother united with the First Presbyterian Church of the Northern Liberties, then under the pastoral care of the Rev. James Patterson. He was received to the communion of this church on profession of his faith, when about seventeen years old.

He entered Princeton Seminary in 1826, and remained there for two years; was licensed by the Presbytery of Baltimore, Nov. 5, 1828, and engaged in mission work in the northeastern part of the city; was ordained and installed pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church by the Presbytery of Baltimore, July 25, 1830, in which church he continued for twenty-two years, laboring with great ability, and gaining much influence in the city.

Having received the appointment of Corresponding Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, he was released from his pastoral charge, Nov. 1, 1852, and removed to the city of Philadelphia. The next year, 1853, he was elected Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Domestic Missions, and remained at this post for eight years, until 1861, when he resigned in consequence of the partial failure of his eye sight. He then accepted an invitation to preach in North Penn (now North Tenth Street) Church of Philadelphia, over which he was installed by the Central Presbytery of Philadelphia, Jan. 11, 1863, and labored on with great energy and fidelity until released from the pastorate, Oct. 12, 1868, when he was the second time elected Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Domestic Missions. In this office he remained until 1871, when the Board was removed to the city of New York. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the College of New Jersey in 1845, and was elected a trustee of the college in 1859. The degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by the University of Indiana in 1862. He was elected a Director of Princeton Seminary in 1837, and First Vice-President of the Board in 1868. He was Moderator of the Old School General Assembly that met at Albany in 1868, and was also a member of the Assembly which met the next year in the city of New York, and was chosen Chairman of the Committee on Re-union. In November following he was appointed Chairman of the Joint Committee on "Reconstruction," and the plans and principles reported by him to the first re-united General Assembly, held in Philadelphia, May, 1870, for the management and adjustment of the Synods and Presbyteries, were adopted.

After the reunion Dr. Musgrave confined himself and his efforts largely to the interests of the church in Philadelphia. He was a warm supporter of the schemes formed for the advancement of the church in the city, and gave his special attention to the establishment and enlargement of the Presbyterian Hospital, of whose Board of Trustees he was President from its organization until his death.

He was also President of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Historical Society from May, 1876, until his death. To the Board of Publication he rendered efficient service as a member of its Business Committee. One of the works of his closing years worthy to be recalled was his generous efforts to build up the Presbyterian Church in Bethlehem, Pa. He was wont to spend part of his summers in that town, and finding a struggling church there, he gave to it his wise counsels and contributed of his means to enlarge the church and its property, so that it soon acquired permanence, and became a recognized institution in the community. It was generous help given at the right time and in the right way.

Dr. Musgrave was very frequently a member of the General Assembly. His first appearance in that body was in Philadelphia, in 1831, less than a year after his ordination, and his last was in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1881, just half a century later. He was warmly greeted on every side, and made an address at the request of the body, recounting the progress of the church during the fifty years, and exhorting his brethren to fidelity to the standards of their church, and diligence and activity in the service of Christ. But at that time evidences of decline were painfully visible. His remaining months on earth were mostly passed in debility, sickness and suffering. During the following winter and spring he had a long-protracted illness; but he so far recovered that he was able during the summer to go out and even attend the meetings of some of the organizations with which he was connected. But soon his strength began to fail, and he declined slowly until the end came and he fell asleep. He had lived the life of faith, and his work being done, he "died in the faith," August 24, 1882, in his seventy-eighth year.

Dr. Musgrave was born to be a leader among men. Positive in his convictions, and with the ability to state all his opinions with marvellous clearness and force, he was in every assembly of men into which he came a man of mark. His power was soon felt and acknowledged. He was a man of warm attachments and strong convictions; honest in his views and earnest in presenting them. No one ever was in any doubt in regard to where he stood on any question, especially when he had an opportunity to advocate or defend his position. He never married, and all his household went down to the grave before him. He loved with great and increasing affection the institutions at Princeton, and to them he bequeathed generous legacies.