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## ARTICLE VI.

## PROFESSOR PARK'S NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY.

WITH LETTERS FROM PUPILS AND FRIENDS.

PROFESSOR EDWARDS A. PARK, D.D., LL.D., was forty years editor of the *BIBLIOTHECA SACRA*. His ninetieth anniversary, December 29, 1898, a very noteworthy occasion in itself, has been made memorable by his pupils and friends, who sent to him a great number of letters of respect and congratulation, and more than a hundred of them intended for publication. These letters exhibit Professor Park's system of theology as judged by its fruits in three generations. They very largely represent expert and even eminent opinion. If space permitted, we should like to publish the entire list of this remarkably rich and satisfactory collection of testimonies to the intellectual and spiritual value of Professor Park's presentation of New England theology when applied by his pupils in the churches to the holy of holies of the religious life and to the practical problems that have confronted them in all parts of our nation. We are allowed to make the following extracts, which may appropriately find place in a great quarterly of which he was one of the founders.

*Professor Alexander V. G. Allen, D.D., Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge, Mass.*:—I should like to be counted among those who will take the occasion of the anniversary of your birthday to offer you their tribute of gratitude, reverence, and affection. Although I

did not belong to the same household in the common faith, yet when I went to Andover I was received as kindly as if I did, and there was no discrimination. The year during which I attended your lectures was most memorable to me, as it has ever since remained

most fruitful in my life. It was the first time I had come under the influence of a great living teacher, and I honor myself when I say I was aware of my privilege, and that though anticipating great things, the reality was greater than the anticipation. It is good for a young man to come reverently and in a docile spirit when he has such an opportunity; to cultivate devotion and admiration; not to criticize but to receive in glad submission. A great part of our best training comes through admiration of the teacher. It was your signal gift and rich endowment to be such a teacher as to command the unbounded devotion of your pupils. Such a teacher comes but rarely, a gift of heaven, yet also the result of ages of preparation. Such a teacher in theology you were to us, unexampled in the power of creating a deep interest in the subject, giving us an insight into the many fine and subtle distinctions of theological inquiry, giving to us also a firm grasp on essential things, opening up the vast range of the field to be explored, and then impressing our minds so powerfully and vividly with the form and eloquence of the presentation, that each lecture left its indelible stamp on the mind and each succeeding lecture was eagerly anticipated as a great and blessed privilege. Of course no teacher expects to hold his pupils forever to the letter of his teaching. But the spirit of it, the method and the stimulus, will always abide. So has your influence remained with me and with so many hundreds of your stu-

dents, nor can I express too strongly the gratitude I feel for what you have done for me. These living memories of such a rare, such deep and intense personal influence, invaluable for intellectual and spiritual motive power cannot perish or be forgotten. When those who experienced its charm and power have passed away and can no longer bear their testimony, yet the tradition will continue to live of a unique spell once exerted which has become an integral part of our American and Christian heritage.

This personal force which we were proud to think we monopolized as students has been manifested in other ways for which to be grateful,—in eloquent sermons now printed in books, recalling to the memory the unwonted impression at the moment of their delivery; in the devotion to Puritan ideals issuing through years of toil in learned contributions to the history of New England theology; in that enduring and monumental work for the history of theological literature, the *BIBLIOTHECA SACRA*. These we commemorate with pride, but these also belong to the larger world. The student cherishes with a peculiar devotion the image of the teacher, under whose magic utterance he was awakened to the significance, the scope, the human fascination of divine theology.

**President John Henry Barrows, D. D., Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio:**—There is no book in my library with whose contents I am

more familiar than your volume of "Discourses." I am full of pride as an American that our country has produced a great theologian, who is also a man of letters.

**James L. Barton, D.D., Secretary of the American Board:**—I believe Professor Park is to-day the most affectionately remembered and broadly revered theologian and teacher in this land or any land. We all honor ourselves by uniting in sending our congratulations to this most distinguished preacher to preachers and teacher of theologians, whose life and efforts are built into the best life, teachings, and thoughts of the past and present generations.

**Rev. E. Blakeslee, D.D., of the Bible Study Union, or Blakeslee Graded Lessons:**—There is one side of Professor Park's character to which I presume most persons are strangers. I mean his fondness for children. I had a family of three little girls before going to the Seminary. We occupied a portion of the house next to Professor Park's. The little girls, who were all under nine when we left Andover, became very fond of Professor Park, although they never ceased to regard him with great awe. . . . Their regard for his wisdom was seen in some comments that their mother overheard when one of them was struggling with her Sunday-school lesson. Somehow between her and the eldest there came up a discussion on the doctrine of the Trinity which the younger one declared she

could not understand. The older one calmly informed her that she need not be troubled about that, for "even Professor Park did not know all about it!"

In his regard for little children Professor Park showed his loving nature, and I used to think, listening to his lectures, it was his loving nature that made him a "reformed Calvinist" instead of a "strict Calvinist."

**Rev. George N. Boardman, D.D., ex-Professor of Systematic Theology in Chicago Theological Seminary:**—I have not found that recent authors have developed any elements of doctrine of unquestioned worth beyond the range of thought to which we were introduced in our Andover days. It seemed to me then that the system of Christianity was shown to stand on a firm foundation, and if the foundation was firm then, the system stands secure now. I still turn to the notes taken in my student days for suggestions and arguments concerning the faith delivered to the saints.

**Rev. A. H. Bradford, D.D., Montclair, N. J.:**—I especially remember and prize many conversations, when a few of our class were invited to your house for evening talks. One conversation on immortality I remember with peculiar vividness. It marked an epoch in my thinking on that subject. My dear Professor Park, I can wish for you, when the earthly years have ended, no richer blessing than the

realization of the opportunities and possibilities of that immortal sphere which you made so real to your students during that evening of the year 1869.

**Rev. James Brand, D.D., Oberlin, Ohio:**—There have been three kingly men whose influence abides with me through the years, who have helped my own life, and to whom I owe an immeasurable debt—Theodore Woolsey, Charles G. Finney, and Edwards A. Park, and the greatest of these is Park. . . . When, in after years, I returned to Andover to be your pupil, you, beyond all other men, opened to me the mysteries and inspirations of theological thought and gave to me those conceptions of the greatness of God and the glory of the divine government which have been the undergirding of my faith and the inspiration of my preaching for thirty years.

**Rev. M. Burnham, D.D., St. Louis, Mo.:**—Professor Park has helped shape my thought and direct it in the contemplation and presentation of the great themes of the gospel. Many of his definitions of truth have grown upon me during these years in the ministry. The inspiration of the Scriptures; the great fact of the atonement by Jesus Christ; the relation of the human will to the Divine will; God's agency in man's salvation and man's agency in his own salvation; the necessity for the work of the Holy Spirit;—in all these and kindred themes he helped

mold and direct my thoughts, and aided moreover in my spiritual experiences. I owe much of any success I may have attained in the preaching of the gospel to my dear old teacher, Professor Park.

**Rev. L. T. Chamberlain, D.D., New York City:**—Your continued and personal friendship when I was a student in the seminary striving to understand the truths of God's holy word; your personal and valued aid given to me in my pastoral life and work; your personal sympathy tenderly assured to me, in the hour of bereavement; all this has made me your grateful debtor in such degree as words cannot express.

**Rev. F. E. Clark, D.D., President of the United Society of Christian Endeavor:**—I am not indulging in fulsome eulogy and I am not detracting from the power of other great teachers when I say that I believe your influence over many of us was of a different character from that of any other man with whom we ever came in contact.

**Rev. L. H. Cobb, D.D., Secretary Congregational Church Building Society:**—Not one among all the teachers I had in my college and seminary course stimulated me more than Professor Park. His course of lectures were considered by multitudes at that time as models. They have been invaluable to me in all the years since I graduated. They made clear many points connected with the theolog-

ical system that I have not found as well stated in any other treatises. In my judgment he did much to mold the thought of the time of his greatest activity and put his mark on the men he instructed, as comparatively few teachers do.

**Joseph Cook, LL.D., Boston Monday Lecturer:**—In his lectures on theology, Professor Park's constant and crowning characteristics seem to me to have been these seven: His exact adherence to the scientific method, his lucidity in definitions and distinctions, his acuteness, massiveness, comprehensiveness, and unflinching biblical soundness of thought, with a majestic spiritual elevation of tone. At the last analysis, the controlling principles of his system of thought were, on the one hand, *Reverence for proof*, or *Clear ideas at any cost*; and, on the other hand, *Obedience, the organ of spiritual knowledge*.

When vagueness and self-contradiction are expelled from infidel, agnostic, or unevangelical schemes of thought, they are riddled castles. It was the emphasis which he placed upon definition and coherency which made Professor Park's methods of discussion fatal to countless erroneous contentions in philosophy and theology old and new by exposing their incurable vagueness and ineradicable self-contradictions. [Mr. Cook's letter is published in full as an article in the *Independent* of January 12 on "Professor Park and his Pupils."]

**Professor Jacob Cooper, D.D., LL. D., Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.:**—Blessings be upon your venerated head is the fervent prayer of one who has, for almost half a century, felt that he knew you. As I learned more of your labors for the gospel, for pure orthodoxy, for learning, for anything which benefits man, I have felt drawn to you by cords of love. May the blessing of the Most High God rest and abide upon you, and may your life on the earth be spared many years!

**Professor Albert H. Currier, D.D., Oberlin Theological Seminary:**—John Knox is said to have "tuned" the pulpits of Scotland because "he struck the keynote to which all that is best in the preaching of Scotland has been harmonious and true." So to you belongs the great honor of having "tuned" for a generation through your influence on your pupils, the pulpits they have filled East and West throughout our broad land. For this they and their churches are great debtors to you.

**Professor Joseph L. Daniels, D.D., Olivet College, Olivet, Mich.:**—I want to thank you as a representative of that vast army of Phillips Academy boys who received their first, and no doubt life-long, impressions of the sublimity and grandeur of Scripture truth by listening to your eloquent sermons in the Seminary chapel. To come under the spell of a great preacher, to receive the truth from the lips of a master was no small part of

the three years' education and inspiration which I recall with delight, as I renew my mental and moral awakening at Andover.

**Rev. Lysander Dickerman, D.D.,** *New York City*:—I want to congratulate you on your length of days, but still more on the excellent work you have done. I believe no other man ever lived who accomplished so much for exactness of definition and usage in theological terms.

**W. F. Draper, Andover, Mass.:**—In looking back upon the leadings of Providence I esteem it a special blessing that I have been privileged for so many years to be so pleasantly associated with so helpful and inspiring a leader, especially in connection with the BIBLIOTHECA SACRA for thirty-four of its forty Andover years.

**Rev. A. E. Dunning, D.D.,** *Editor of the Congregationalist*:—Hundreds of men who are shaping and guiding public opinion in these stirring times have been largely equipped for their work through your service. Their labors are yours also. You sit in your easy-chair on Andover Hill, and preach and create systems of theology, and administer the affairs of the churches, and manage colleges and universities, and edit newspapers, and carry on great missionary societies.

**President Timothy Dwight, D.D., LL.D.,** *Yale University, New Ha-*

*ven, Conn.*:—Although I cannot claim the honor of having been one of your pupils in my student days, I have my place among the great brotherhood of university-educated men who have long recognized your leading position as a theologian and as a teacher of your chosen science.

**Rev. S. H. Emery, Taunton, Mass.:**—The first time I set eyes on your dear face was in the year of your graduation at Brown University with the highest honors, where your father had been professor, and your entrance on theological study at Andover, with Stuart, Woods, and Porter.

**Professor J. L. Ewell, D.D.,** *Howard University, Washington, D.C.*:—The clear, profound, and evangelical instruction which I was permitted to receive from you thirty years ago, and the kindness and cordiality which you have always shown me in all the years that have intervened have won my ever-growing love and respect.

**Rev. James H. Fairchild, D.D., LL.D.,** *ex-President of Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio*:—Your words have reached me throughout the years, often bringing illumination and inspiration. Thus you have had a wide circle of pupils whose names do not appear on your class roll. The general result of these many years of illumination is that our statements of Christian doctrine have constantly become

more reasonable and satisfactory; at the same time the spirit of theological discussion has been greatly improved. The words orthodoxy and heresy have lost their malignant charm. We cannot be mistaken in the belief that your own wise and effective and long-continued labors have greatly contributed to these improved conditions.

**Professor George P. Fisher, D.D., of Yale Theological Seminary:—** My thoughts run back to the days which I spent at Andover where the supreme attraction to me was your lectures on Theology, which excited so great interest as well by their masterly ability as by the felicity of language and of manner which marked the delivery of them. But even the lectures do not appeal to my recollection with so potent a charm as does the memory of interviews with you under your own roof and of the many delightful walks which, through your kindness, we took together over the hills and along the banks of the river. The attraction of your conversation, in which wit and wisdom were mingled in a form so captivating to a youthful student, is the most engaging of all the reminiscences of my life at Andover. Of course I do not forget your eloquence in the pulpit and your services to literature. It is quite common for a man of your age to hear the wish expressed that he may "live to be a hundred,"—as if there were a feeling of indifference as to whether or not he would survive that limit. When this hackneyed wish was ex-

pressed to old Dr. Routh of Magdalen College, when he was not far from that landmark, he answered that he had lately heard of the death of a Nonconformist minister at the age of one hundred and five, "and," he added, "I want the Church to beat."

**President F. W. Fisk, D.D., LL.D., Chicago Theological Seminary:—** It seems to me that I have known you always. When a student in Phillips Academy I heard you deliver your inaugural address, at your entrance on the professorship of Sacred Rhetoric, in the Seminary chapel before a crowded and delighted audience, among whom were many men eminent in learning and in station; but none of them, I am sure, listened with more absorbing interest than my fellow-students and myself.

Since that day throughout all these intervening years, you, as preacher, theologian, editor, author, and friend have had no small influence on my thinking and life, for which I am grateful.

**Rev. Addison P. Foster, D.D., Secretary for New England of the American Sunday-school Union, Eastern Editor of the Advance:—** My theological studies were, like the Ancient Gaul of Cæsar's Commentaries, divided into three parts. They began at Williams College under Dr. Mark Hopkins in his Saturday morning classes on the Westminster Catechism; they continued at Princeton under Dr. Charles A. Hodge; they concluded—so far as

ante-ministerial work was concerned—under your teaching at Andover. The combination was unusual and peculiar. On the whole I think it was advantageous. Dr. Hopkins laid the foundations; Dr. Hodge put up the walls; you roofed the building in and built the arching dome. To be sure there had been some contentions between the builders; but, after all, their great fundamental principles were the same, and it was not difficult, by removing a bit of scaffolding here and there, to get a shape and unified structure.

**Professor Frank Hugh Foster, D.D., Pacific Theological Seminary, Oakland, Cal.:**—Your teaching and labor put into our pulpits from Maine to California that generation of able men, now beginning, also, to fade from our midst, who bore for many years the chief burdens of our ministry, who led the work and who gave a unity of belief, of aim, and of method to Congregationalism which made it the definite and powerful instrumentality for good which it has been.

**Rev. D. L. Furber, D.D., Newton, Mass.:**—Nothing in the study of homiletics ever impressed me so much as your making plans of sermons in the presence of the class,—and *such* plans. I think Professor Phelps would agree with me, for he says the study of the art of planning sermons is worthy to rank with the study of psychology.

With Professor Phelps you made a hymn-book which our churches

would be using now if the tunes had been satisfactory.

In theology you gave us what you believed with heart and soul was the truth, in distinction from all other systems of belief. This enabled you to arouse the enthusiasm of your classes. Besides this, you kindled many a mind by personal private interviews in which young men, touched by your kindly interest in them, complimented by your courtesy, and encouraged by your swift appreciation of whatever in them was praiseworthy, found new visions of usefulness opened before them. In this way the power of the lecture-room was redoubled as the influence of a preacher is redoubled by his work as a pastor.

**President George A. Gates, D.D., Iowa College, Grinnell; Iowa:**—There can be few satisfactions of human life equal to that which is yours. It rests upon the consciousness that your contribution to human thought is living on in the minds of thousands of your pupils. Your endowment of spirit is perpetuating itself into these years of your age and beyond the possibility of your own life. Your gift of consecration to high ambition and holy choice grows richer and wider in the lives and work of those who honor and revere you.

**Rev. George A. Gordon, D.D., Pastor of the Old South Church, Boston:**—In common with all New England, and in a just sense the whole country, I owe a tribute of

respect and reverence to the acute intellect and the inspiring personality that in the offices of teacher, preacher, and writer have done so much to perpetuate our best traditions, and to stimulate two generations of students to profound and progressive thinking upon the greatest of all themes.

**Rev. George H. Gould, D.D., Worcester, Mass.**:—I can almost say of Professor Park as the German poet Wieland said of Goethe, "Since the morning I first met him my soul has been as full of Goethe as the dewdrops of sunshine!"

And now after forty-five years of putting his teachings on trial—using his theological system as the working hypothesis of my ministry—I find no part of that "system" that modern light and experience have antiquated—or forced me to abandon as inadequate to the magnificent *present-day* work of preaching to lost men the "Glorious Gospel of the Blessed God!"

**Rev. John M. Greene, D.D., Lowell, Mass.**:—No uninspired mind has influenced my mind so much as yours. I have read with admiration and profit all your articles printed in the BIBLIOTHECA SACRA, and, I think, all the books you have published. Your Memoir of Nathaniel Emmons is the most charming, the most nearly perfect piece of biography, I have ever read. Your work in rescuing from oblivion and embellishing by your own genius the lives and works of the New England Church Fathers

entitles you to immortal gratitude and love. Your influence in promoting sound learning and evangelical religion in our colleges, as well as in our theological seminaries, has been preëminent.

**Rev. Edward E. Hale, D.D., South Congregational Church, Boston, Mass.**:—Pray count me as one among the thousands of friends who are eager to thank you for the service you have rendered to the world."

**Rev. Cyrus Hamlin, D.D., ex-President of Roberts College, Turkey, and Middlebury College, Vermont.**:—Although I am not one of your Andover students, yet I have always rejoiced to sit at your feet as one of the ablest of our evangelical faith, and I therefore claim to join the "Andover boys," old and young, in the congratulations of the day.

God has given you to reach with faculties undimmed your ninetieth birthday, and through more than sixty years to stand firm for the truth on Andover Hill. For this we offer devout thanksgiving.

In 1836, only sixty-two years ago, while a student in Bangor Theological Seminary I received from an Andover student and friend a very urgent invitation to come and hear Professor Park's "Inaugural." He was the rising star, and I would never regret having made the effort to hear him.

I reached Andover Hill in season, but the house was packed full to overflowing. I had traveled

250 miles by steamboat and stage to hear an inaugural. An open window not very high invited consideration. Some things lying around suggested a staging, and with some rails from a neighboring fence it was speedily and noiselessly constructed. We mounted it carefully, and heard every word of the address, enjoying what the great audience could not enjoy—the most perfect ventilation. The last word uttered, we removed the staging, restored the rails, and no action for trespass followed. The address was pronounced profound, witty, and brilliant. My admiration was unbounded.

I thus saw the opening of a long and distinguished career which has known no faltering steps.

Your name will be held in reverence and love so long as Andover Hill shall endure.

**Professor Samuel Harris, D.D., of Yale Theological Seminary:**—I retain a distinct and vivid remembrance of many sermons which I heard you preach in the Seminary chapel, and also in Boston at the anniversaries, then held there every spring. Your preaching was certainly the most impressive and powerful that I have ever heard.

**Professor J. M. Hoppin, D.D., of Yale Theological Seminary:**—I recall the wonderful criticism of sermons in the class-room, when you took the sermon to pieces, leaving not one stone upon another, and then built it up again with the same stones, if they were good ones,

so that the criticism was not destructive but constructive and encouraging. And your own preaching was a source of inspiration, combining solid thinking with a chastened imagination.

**Dr. Alvah Hovey, ex-President of the Newton Baptist Theological Institution, Newton Centre, Mass.:**—Very few, outside of your nearest friends, can have felt a higher admiration for your character and work than myself. Every subject which your pen has touched it has adorned and made more interesting to others. I have particularly enjoyed your teaching in respect to the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ, and your always reverent handling of the Sacred Word. I rejoice to send you this token of my love, this *pignus amicitiae*; and may the evening of your life be illuminated with the foregleams of immortality.

**Rev. William S. Hubbell, D.D., Bible House, New York City:**—Personally I owe Professor Park a debt which I can never repay for the help received from him as my instructor, adviser, and friend. One of my classmates stole away from the Seminary chapel, on a certain Sunday, in order to hear Professor Park at Lawrence. The student was called to account for his absence, inasmuch as Professor Park had observed him in the congregation. "I went to hear you, sir," replied the culprit, "because Professor Phelps advised us to embrace every opportunity to hear the great living models of pulpit eloquence."

**Samuel Johnson, Esq., Boston:**—I know that many will refer to the work that you have accomplished, and to the influence that you have exerted; but I think that there is nothing greater than to have made those around you feel as if you were their friend.

**Rev. Arthur W. Kelly, Associate Editor of the *Christian Endeavor World*:**—I cannot close this long letter without a word as to my personal debt of gratitude. Looking forward with pleasure to the thought of sitting at your feet, I never expected any privilege other than what came to all students. I used to look with envy at those of higher classes whom I saw walking with you, and without a suspicion of the opportunity that was to come to me. It will always be pleasant to recall those associations with your home where I spent six years after leaving the Seminary. I shall always highly value the experience which I gained there in connection with my labors on the proof-sheets of the *BIBLIOTHECA SACRA* and of your volume of "Discourses." The thought of having had such advantages is humiliating in view of the little I am doing, when I ought to do so much in return.

**Professor George Trumbull Ladd, D.D., Yale University:**—My obligations to you are not confined to the excitement of my thoughts and studies in theology, by the work of the class-room. It was your generous encouragement which gave me the first opportunity, while yet

a student in the Seminary, to try myself in the matter of research and publication. For this you opened to me the columns of the *BIBLIOTHECA SACRA*. I have written many thousand pages since then, but never anything with more zeal, industry, and profit,—to myself at least.

**Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, Bishop of Massachusetts:**—Allow me to join with hosts of your friends and scholars in offering you my hearty congratulations upon reaching the age of fourscore years and ten, in possession of your faculties (including your wit), and high in the regard and affection of thousands throughout the world.

Although I am in the line of succession of those "Lord Bishops" from whom your predecessors fled, I am also one of your scholars. Whatever taint of episcopacy is found in me must be laid at your door.

Such a day as you celebrate, however, throws into the shade all ecclesiastical questions and theological differences and brings us to the common ground of fellow-sinners, who through Christ's blood and resurrection are trying to be fellow-saints.

**Rev. George R. Leavitt, D.D., Beloit, Wis.:**—I had two greatest teachers. Dr. Mark Hopkins was one. You were the other. When asked to compare these I have said, "It is not necessary to compare. Both were superlative. Often we lose superlatives by compari-

son. Dr. Hopkins was famous for the Socratic question. In that famous Middle lecture-room I learned the power of analysis. "Analysis conquers all." I shall never cease to be thankful for the teaching of that room, for the prayers, for the impression of a personality that has so shaped all my intellectual and religious life. When I left Andover I put my "Lectures" among my "elbow" books. I have rarely taken them from the shelf. I found that they were in my mind, so thorough had been the teaching. What a preachable theology, in all these troublesome times,—so reasonable, so biblical!

*Rev. A. McKenzie, D. D., Cambridge, Mass.*:—You have the right to much content with a life whose "indefatigable hours" have enriched the world for many generations.

*Professor John Wesley Merrill, D. D., Concord, N. H.*:—With the class of 1837 I sat for one year delighted at your feet. Though you were younger than I by seven months and ten days, you seemed to me to be almost out of my sight in all intellectual and moral attainments. I am amazed at what you have accomplished. It must have been with divine help and unrelaxed toil. I owe you a debt I can never repay.

*Rev. Selah Merrill, D. D., United States Consul at Jerusalem*:—Gladstone and Park are two names that

for many years I have associated together, and I have wondered which would be called first.

Both these men are in the highest rank of leaders, of whom the last part of the nineteenth century seems to be productive of few.

*Rev. Charles Perry Mills, Newburyport, Mass.*:—Other students saw you in the class-room and heard you from the pulpit; mine was also the rare privilege of spending four or five evenings a week with you for the year 1879-80, reviewing unpublished manuscripts of Jonathan Edwards, which I had studied during the day under your direction. My soul was among lions. During those memorable evenings I saw Jonathan Edwards and Edwards A. Park together. So history will group you in the development of New England theology. No third figure of sufficient significance has yet earned the right to stand in that setting. By reason of this personal association with you in the privacy of your home, my sentiment toward you is more than admiring appreciation of mind; it is warm regard of heart. Fervent is my prayer that the ageless Father in heaven may crown you with blessings not limited to number or time, as fervent as was your prayer at my ordination which has been a lasting inspiration to my ministry.

*Professor George Moor, D. D., Pacific Theological Seminary, Oakland, Cal.*:—Those were eager days. Our minds were kept so

alert. The Themes we studied took on greatness. The outlines between theme and theme grew sharp. The terms of our thinking got exact definition. The consistency of doctrines with each other was made a virtue. We were not afraid to have a system in our faith, we were rather led to shun the weakness of not having one. It was made plain to us that there was progress in Theology, but a progress which conserved the past. There was a subtlety of discrimination, but not of such sort as to tempt us to forget that these teachings were to be preached; indeed, they were phrased so that they might be preached. We heard them uttered by your lips before congregations that never lost the power or charm of the utterance. We read them as restated and defended in notable papers in the weighty journal then under your editorial care. We noted the wide range of literature which you could so readily and pithily lay under contribution, while we could not fail to admire those critical memorials in which you magnified to us the life and the product of the Edwardean Theologians of an earlier day.

Rev. James O. Murray, D.D., LL.D., *Dean of Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.*:—All through these years your name has been among our household words. My affection for you has grown with my experience of life, and my only regret is that I cannot call and tell you how deeply I appreciate what by your kind interest in me and

mine, and by your teachings, you have done for my life.

Rev. W. A. Nichols, *Lake Forest, Illinois*:—I have enjoyed more than I can express the account of your birthday as published in the *Congregationalist* last week.

In age I am eight months your senior. One of the last things I did under your instruction was to write a dissertation on the life and work of the great Jonathan Edwards. I commenced my paper with the words "Edwards, the greatest of the sons of men."

Rev. E. N. Packard, D.D., *Syracuse, N. Y.*:—It is almost three decades since I sat in the benches and heard you lecture with unequalled power of logic and splendor of illustration. . . . The main outlines of the system of theology which you taught have never been abandoned by me. I have not found them antiquated nor powerless in presenting the gospel to men.

Rev. Charles Ray Palmer, D.D., *New Haven, Conn.*:—We gratefully remember the skill, the patience, the kindly yet unrelenting earnestness, with which you endeavored to call forth from us the best powers that were in us; the tact with which you taught us to think for ourselves, to think independently and constructively, and then to formulate and defend our opinions like men; the invigorating atmosphere of your lecture-room, and the intellectual uplift we experienced from your instruction, and

from your discourses from the pulpit.

Professor George H. Palmer, LL.D., *Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.*:—It is said you are ninety years old to-day. Almanacs always disregard truth. To me you will always be the vigorous man, who, untouched by time, superintended eternal things in my Seminary days. But the mendacity of the almanac gives me one privilege. I can now without fear speak the honor which those days did not allow me to express.

It eases my mind to confess the great debt I have always owed you as a teacher. Born into a mystic age, and full of philosophy and poetry myself, I was not able at that time to accept in full your exact and strenuous system. But I was not allowed to remain in vague and idle dissent. You summoned me to active thinking and forced me to decide whether I did or did not agree with what was said. So your energy revealed to me both the subject and myself. And something like this must, I think, have been effected in all your hearers. Light as your touch always was, with wit and playfulness abundantly summoned to your aid, you made every man feel that the subject was a tremendous one and that everything else in life must be counted secondary to its understanding.

That is the triumph of the teacher. I doubt if you have ever received praise enough on that score. Your pupils were all impassioned, for or against you. Nobody was

listless. Nobody thought the things we were talking about of little consequence. If I could secure that result, I should care little whether I lodged my own belief in my pupil's mind. I should know I was putting powerful beliefs of his own there and saving him from negations and vacuity.

This influence of yours has attended all my life. A fortunate circumstance it was that, destined to be a teacher, I was able at the very outset to study under a master of the beautiful art. Better indeed than any of the modern "training in Pedagogics." I experienced what it was to be nobly taught; and when in later years I have slipped down myself into cheap teaching, I have always been penitently aware of what I was doing. Your work has made these stings of conscience possible, and I profoundly thank you—the greatest teacher I have ever known.

*Rev. J. H. Pettee, Missionary of the American Board to Japan:*—More than once have I been able to get the better of keen-witted doubters and that worst of all known classes among hair-splitting, disputatious foemen—Buddhist priests—by quoting some argument or illustration learned in your old lecture-room on Andover Hill.

To give a single example. I used with great effectiveness on one occasion your striking illustration of the way God's sovereignty and man's free will may seem to meet and yet not collide. Two trains traveling at a high rate of speed on roads at right angles to each other

pass the junction at the same instant but without collision, because the track of one runs high above that of the other.

My opponent was not only silenced but convinced, and shortly after publicly proclaimed himself a Christian. He later became a preacher of the truth.

**Rev. A. H. Plumb, D.D., Boston:**—I remember my student life at Andover for two things above all; the pressure of Professor Park's preaching on my conscience, and the light his lectures gave. In that light it has been a joy for me to labor forty years in the ministry of Christ with an increasing sense of grateful obligation to him who first helped me to see religious truth in its harmonious relations, and with increasing satisfaction in the views his instructions enabled me to take.

**Rev. C. H. Richards, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.:**—Your words and work have borne more fruit than you can possibly imagine, and I rejoice with others in the blessing God has given through you to the world.

**Rev. L. S. Rowland, D.D., Lee, Mass.:**—It was my privilege to be at Andover in the days of its greatness, when the Middle lecture-room was the cynosure for theological students from all over the land. I am glad to number myself among those who, while not altogether blind to the changes of thought in recent years, still main-

tain our fealty, in the main, to the New England theology as taught to us by its greatest exponent. We have found it to such a degree scriptural, intelligible, and preach-able that we cannot doubt it expresses the substance of the faith delivered to the saints.

**Mr. Charles Wesley Sanderson, Musician and Artist of Boston:**—One Saturday evening in May, at my room, in Andover, a distinguished company was gathered. Ralph Waldo Emerson was your guest for Sunday. He had just given his lecture on "Art" at the town hall.

Other of my visitors on this occasion were Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, Professor Phelps and his daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Buck, Mrs. and Miss Edwards, Joseph Cook, Mrs. Annie S. Downs, with you and Miss Agnes. At about half-past eleven Ernst Perabo was begged to play his own transcription of the great triple concerto of Beethoven for Mr. Emerson. When midnight was near the pianist hesitated before the last movement of the opus. At this pause you remarked, "It is getting very late, Mr. Emerson," who immediately replied, "Professor Park, there is no lateness." Mr. Perabo consequently finished playing the work to the evident satisfaction of our transcendental guest.

**Rev. A. F. Schauffler, D.D., New York City:**—How I enjoyed your brilliant lectures words would fail

to set forth. They were always a delight and a joy, and the memory of them comes back to me like a refreshing breeze from the wide sea. Of all the renowned men under whom it was my privilege to sit, two stand forth as mountain peaks of beauty and glory. One was President Mark Hopkins and the other your own dear self.

**Rev. G. R. W. Scott, D.D., Newton, Mass.**—For all the impulse and direction your teaching and interest have given to my life I owe you my heartiest thanks. Your advice and help in solving for me some difficult problems in critical times have made me your debtor to the extent that I can never hope to repay you in any true measure, save by a fuller expression of my love, which abides in fullest strength.

**President L. Clark Seelye, D.D., Smith College, Northampton, Mass.**—Although you have outlived the *odium theologicum*, you can never outlive the respect and affection of those who have had the privilege of your instruction and the joy of your society.

Your sermons, your lectures, your friendship are among the most precious experiences of our lives, and the longer we live the deeper is our gratitude for all that you have been permitted to do for us and for the world.

**Rev. Judson Smith, D.D., Secretary of the American Board**—You have lived to see great changes in all departments of human life

and activity, nowhere greater than in the systems of thought and philosophy which prevail in the religious world. But you have not seen the gospel waning, its glory sinking into eclipse, or its truths losing their place of supreme power in men's hearts and lives; neither have you contributed anything to the forces which would tend to unseat the gospel in the reverence or love of mankind. Great as your service was in the chair of theology for a full generation, and few in these or any times have wrought a greater work, it seems probable that your greatest service has been rendered by the spectacle of your unswerving loyalty to the Word of God, deepening with your widening knowledge and growing years, becoming more unchangeably fixed in the midst of ceaseless changes and strange defections and an insufferable pride of knowledge that have marked the closing decades of the century.

**Rev. C. M. Southgate, Auburn-dale, Mass.**—As a little Academy boy I sat in the old chapel pews, and while groaning at the perpendicular back emphasized by a projecting cornice, wondered and trembled at the sermons whose very words I can recall in part to-day. I chose my seminary largely for the sake of the unrivaled instruction and stimulus which made famous its chair of systematic theology; and the bound volume of my notes lay on my study desk when I got word this birthday was to be kept. My life would have been poorer and weaker but for

you, and it is fit that I should send you my thanks and love in fullest measure.

**Rev. S. L. B. Speare, *Newton, Mass.***—When I have wished for an example of undivided consecration to duty; of an enthusiastic elevation of the ministry of Jesus as the one coronal privilege; of an appreciation of theology as the all-comprehensive, profound, and ennobling science; of preaching as the grandest exercise of a devout and qualified mind and heart; of the pastorate as a field angels might covet, and of the pulpit as the most exalted station known to earth, I have only had to recall your life-work as I have been privileged to observe it for nearly fifty years.

**Rev. H. A. Stimson, D.D., *Pastor of the Manhattan Congregational Church, New York City.***—I look back to the happy years in Andover in my student days as having shaped and inspired my life, and to no one is that due as to you. . . . In some small degree you are living in such work as I have been permitted to do.

**Rev. Richard S. Storrs, D.D., LL.D., *Pastor of the Church of the Pilgrims, Brooklyn, N. Y.***—I wonder whether, of the many who will write to you in anticipation of your birthday, there can be any—there certainly cannot be many—whose personal remembrance of you goes back over so long an interval as mine. I shall not quite

count myself "an old man" for two or three years to come, but a vague premonition of it comes to me when I remember that I first met you nearly seventy-two years ago, in the early summer of 1827, while, I think, you were teaching a select school at Weymouth Landing. Our acquaintance at that time was not intimate, as I was a child of six years, and you towered before me in the seemingly unapproachable sublimity of nineteen: but I remember you, in the south parlor of my father's house, and a few words from you, published not long since, showed me that you had not forgotten it. When afterward you came to Braintree as colleague pastor with my father in 1831, I, being then a confident boy of ten years, of course knew you much better, and, according to my apprehension of things, was able to measure you, mentally and morally, with great correctness. Then, when a Freshman at Amherst in 1835, during the year of your professorship there, we were again in the same house, and daily at the same table, and I used to listen admiringly to the animated talk between you, Bradford Homer, Mr. Osmyn Baker, and the others, and think how grand it would be now and then to put in a word, if I only dared! Then, at Andover, in 1841 and after, I began occasionally to say something for myself, as I have been doing pretty constantly ever since when we have too infrequently met! It's a long acquaintance and friendship to recall, my dear friend, and it is very sweet to me to remember that

though we haven't always agreed in opinion, no cloud has ever dimmed the shining serenity of our friendship, and that I may now freely acknowledge the vast debt of grateful obligation on my part to you, for the fine inspirations, the noble incentive, the undecaying vigor of conviction and purpose, which you have largely and constantly helped to put into my life.

**Rev. George E. Street, D.D., *Philips Church, Exeter, N. H.***—The first time I saw and heard Professor Park was in the Centre Church, New Haven, in the autumn of 1854. It was at the ordination of Rev. Geo. P. Fisher, as preacher of the College. I do not recall his text, or the subject of his discourse, but from my perch, as a Freshman in the gallery, I took in a scene that is still very fresh in my memory, the majestic form and brow of the preacher, his impressive utterance, his long periods and eloquent climaxes, which held the great body of ministers and professors below spellbound until the going down of the sun.

What I witnessed that day drew me to Andover some years later for theological study. For the first year we saw him no nearer than the Seminary Chapel pulpit where he greatly overawed us by his occasional sermons. How dramatically he brought "Pilate," "Peter," "Judas" before us in those great studies of his artist pen. But his crowning effort of that tragic year of 1861 was his discourse on "The Imprecatory Psalms," or as we

theologues patly called it, his "Through Baltimore sermon," in which the fire of the patriot blazed from his prophetic eyes in terrible fashion. But for the sickening reports from the seat of war our Middle years would have been a succession of delights as we came into close range of our great professor in the lecture-room. As it was, he turned the war into a fertile source of illustrations of the sublime themes he handled there. We looked forward to each day's lecture as to a feast which, once missed, could never be made up by copying from a classmate's notes; because they lacked the charm of presence, and the play of humor, and the solemn hush that came over our spirits under the application of some mighty lesson of the subject in hand.

**Dr. E. E. Strong, *Editor of Missionary Herald, Boston***:—How clearly the elements of power in the gospel of Christ were unfolded to us in your lecture-room.

**Rev. A. C. Thompson, D.D., *Boston***:—The thought of the noble army of missionaries now in the field, many of whom were once your pupils, is enough to rejuvenate the oldest man living. The fourscore and ten years of your life have witnessed the fulfillment of all the pledges in the ninety-first Psalm, including the climax "With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation."

**President Charles F. Thwing, D.D., *Western Reserve University, Cleve-***

*land, Ohio.*—Two men on Andover Hill had a large share in my education; the one was Samuel H. Taylor in its beginning, and the other was Edwards A. Park, near its close. Both of them aided me in training me in discrimination and in weighing evidence. The world acknowledges Professor Park to be a great theologian. I wish to say that I think he is a far greater educator.

*Archdeacon C. C. Tiffany, D.D., New York City.*—You have lived in the age of the great scientific marvels, but you have been guided to something diviner still than to dwell amid the folds of His outer garments, which the laws of matter wear, even to beholding the brightness of His countenance as disclosed in the face of Jesus Christ.

You have sought to interpret the heart and the mind thus evidenced and you have stimulated many to like search and like disclosure. That is the great concern of life to be conscious, amid whatever sense of limitation or defect, that one has stood for the highest things.

*Professor L. T. Townsend, D. D., Washington, D. C.*—In view of the approaching ninetieth anniversary of your birthday, accept the congratulations of your Arminian pupil whom, in 1859-62, you came near making a Calvinist.

In recalling those delightful days. I feel that I am more indebted to you in many ways than I can now express.

*Rev. Joseph H. Twichell, Hartford, Conn.*—I became your pupil in circumstances to me memorable and calculated to bring me, in a peculiar manner and degree, under impression of your teaching and your personality. I passed from a life of over three years in camp in the Army of the Potomac into your lecture-room. I had, by my prolonged, foregoing fast, a boundless appetite for the feast there dispensed. What a feast it was to me you can never know. Day after day, the whole winter through, I fed upon it, mind and spirit; and the taste and nutriment of it are with me still.

*Rev. Kinsley Twining, D.D., The New York Independent.*—The churches owe you a delightful debt for defining and vindicating a method of theological thought of which I can say that I have found no better for the church, nor one which has more Pauline authority to commend it. It is a method which has never failed, and was never more signally useful than now in pulling our churches happily through the great controversies which are a divinely appointed part of their warfare on earth.

*Rev. A. J. Upson, D. D., Glens Falls, N. Y.*—When I was Professor at Auburn Seminary, 1880-87, we discussed distinguished preachers, and found your "Life of Dr. Emmons" so inspiring and so useful that in behalf of the students helped, I thank you.

**Rev. S. H. Virgin, D.D., Pastor of the Pilgrim Church of New York City:**—I am glad that the Lord is taking a long time "to prepare a place for you," assured that when it is ready, it will be wonderfully alluring and full of glory. . . . Preaching last winter a series of sermons on the Atonement, I read once more with the old feeling of satisfaction and delight all your lectures on that sublime theme.

**Rev. Cornelius Walker, D.D., late Dean and Professor of Systematic Divinity and Homiletics, Theological Seminary of Virginia:**—Although not having the pleasure of knowing you personally, yet, for a long time, I have known you, in your work and influence. As one, like yourself, retired from work, I appreciate your feelings on this your anniversary; and tender you my heartfelt congratulations and good wishes. May God's blessing be with you now and for the rest of your earthly course! Then, while there will come rest doubtless, there will also come endless and blessed work, heavenly employment and occupation. Trusting to meet and know you there, I am, very truly and sincerely yours in Christ.

**Rev. William Hayes Ward, D.D., Editor of the New York Independent:**—But my chief debt to you is for putting me on six months of good hard work on one single matter of biblical investigation. You asked me, when some three years later, I returned to Andover, to

write an article for the *BIBLIOTHECA SACRA* on the textual criticism of 1 Timothy iii. 16. That work taught me the value of original research. It made me feel the importance of adding something to the knowledge of the world. It was to my mind the beginning of such a method of study as is pursued now in the university seminar, such a work as one would do for a Ph. D. degree. That six months of labor was perhaps epochal in my life as a student, and for the suggestion you gave me of the subject and for the encouragement you gave me in the work, I want now to thank you most heartily.

**President William F. Warren, D.D., Boston University, Boston, Mass.:**—It is more than twenty years since I last addressed you a letter: but I need not tell you why. Sometimes souls so well understand and enjoy each other that the daily sense of fellowship has little need of words. You have not seen me in your study more than once, I suppose, in thirty years; but in thought I have visited it oftener than I have my bank. . . . The other day, in the *Rubáiyát* of Omar Khayyám, I encountered these words:—

Oh thou who didst with Pitfall and with Gin  
Beset the road I was to wander in,  
Thou wilt not with Predestination round  
Enmesh me, and impute my Fall to sin!

Immediately I thought of you, and of your gallant tilt with Professor Hodge of Princeton, in the *BIBLIOTHECA SACRA*, of 1851-52.

**Rev. E. B. Webb, D.D., Pastor Emeritus of Shawmut Congrega-**

*tional Church, Boston*.:—He is a philosopher and a rhetorician, but he never loses sight of the fundamental truths of sin and salvation. He teaches the benevolence of God, but never a benevolence that is indifferent to moral distinctions. He teaches the love of God, but never that shallow love that huddles the righteous and the wicked together through the same narrow gate. Holiness, government, sovereignty, majesty, belong to the God he preaches. And the *atonement*, the blood of Jesus Christ which cleanses from all sin, is the glorious truth which he exalts into highest prominence. His sermons, in any and in all respects, are models that the young men of to-day would wisely study.

*Rev. J. W. Wellman, D.D., Malden, Mass.*:—Much as I have prized the instructions and personal influence of other professors, I have been still more indebted to you for whatever educational preparation I had for the sacred work of the Christian ministry.

*Rev. E. M. Williams, Yankton, South Dakota*.:—You have long since outgrown Andover, and of recent years it can truly be said that New England cannot contain you. For where your influence abides, where men fondly remember you, where they speak your name with gratitude and honor, and hold your teaching in reverence and recall your kindness as an inspiration, there you live and act and sway men still.

*Rev. Lyman Whiting, D.D., Charlemont, Mass.*:—On Wednesday, October 7, 1835, in company with John W. Ray, R. S. Storrs, and one or two others, I went to you for examination in Latin anent entering Amherst College. We met in the President's room of the chapel. A passage from one of Cicero's orations was your selection for me. After reading, I looked up to find your eyes so fixed on me that it became my chief remembrance of that examination. It was our first sight of each other. With the others I became a member of the class of '39. Your preaching and words to the students made an era in the College. A new and other life than had been there seemed to begin. Students and officers of the College felt a life-force astir not known before. A journal I then kept reads: "Tuesday evening, October 13, heard Professor Park on College Temptations. Alarminglly interesting." Your going to Andover in our second year seemed almost a *Vulnus irremedicabile* to the students.

*Rev. J. L. Withrow, D.D., Pastor of Park Street Church, Boston*:—We hail you from the lowlands as you go walking so far toward the century milestone of mortal life. When you shall pass the hundredth waymark, we promise to put our throats to their best shout.

*Rev. Will C. Wood, Boston*:—I shall never forget those earliest months of your lectures, in which

you were not only impressing upon me at a susceptible age your own personality, but were treating in such high, profound, philosophical, reverent way the great truths of natural theology. Especially in those days when you were showing that not only was the universe by the fiat of the Almighty, but that it is every instant by His will—that if he were to withdraw His volition for an instant it would instantly cease to be. I remember that for days and weeks I used to go out from the lecture-room in a *glow* and would repeat:

"Within thy circling power I stand."

Professor G. Frederick Wright, D.D., LL.D., Oberlin, Ohio:—Surely God has heard, in your case, what I doubt not has been your oft-re-

peated prayer, "Now also, when I am old and gray-headed, O God, forsake me not until I have showed thy strength unto this generation and thy power to every one that is to come." The constancy of your faith in God and in the gospel of his Son has been to multitudes of us a source of great strength. And now that you are so soon to grasp the very substance of those ineffable glories in which the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ has led you so long to hope, permit us to send by you our greetings to the innumerable company who have passed on before. But still we pray that their gain may not too soon add to our great loss, and that you may yet for years to come continue to show forth the Lord's strength to this generation.

W. H. Cobb, D.D., Librarian of the Congregational Library, Boston:

He taught us truths, but more,—  
He waked the dormant thought within our breasts;  
Started us, knight-like, on eternal quests,  
Toward God and heaven to soar.

Nor yet the teacher's chair  
His loftiest throne; the pulpit first I place.  
In Sinai's thunders or in Calvary's grace  
The power of God was there.

But spoken words will die;  
Deathless the written word; and how he wrought  
The "sacred library" tells; where giants fought  
O'er questions deep and high.

For his the call, the cheer,  
The guiding hand; oft the creating force  
Those twoscore volumes ran their steady course,  
A river broad and clear.

**President J. E. Rankin, D.D.,** *Howard University, Washington, D.C.*—

The places that once knew thee, know thee still,  
 Great teacher of the grace of sacred speech;  
 Thyself the standard that we fain would reach.  
 The sunset-clouds pavilion yonder hill,  
 Illume the walks, entranced with thee we trod;  
 The trees, thus winter-gemmed, above our head.  
 How many a comrade from us heavenward sped,  
 Our saints and sages on the hills of God!  
 We greet thee still, loins girded, faith sublime,  
 Dawn-fronting, on the century's rising ledge;  
 Again our love and loyalty we pledge,  
 As thou dost wait thine own appointed time;  
 Poor are the limping syllables we frame;  
 Enough of words! Our hearts beat still the same.

It is with regret that we omit extracts from many other letters—all most interesting; but already we have passed our limits. A fuller publication of the letters is intended in a pamphlet with portraits. The board of trustees of Abbot Academy, of which Professor Park is President; the faculty of Amherst College, where, more than sixty years ago, he was in the chair of moral philosophy and metaphysics; and the students of Andover Seminary, where this "Titan of American theology" long labored with such distinguished success,—sent hearty congratulations expressed in eloquent terms.

Professor Park's ninetieth anniversary of his birthday was celebrated in a memorable manner at his now historic home in Andover, Massachusetts, Thursday, December 29, 1898.

About a month before, his friends and pupils in various parts of the land were addressed by a committee, of which the Rev. D. L. Furber, D.D., Cyrus Hamlin, D.D., J. W. Wellman, D.D., A. H. Plumb, D.D., G. R. W. Scott, D.D., and Joseph Cook, LL.D., were members, and requested to join with Boston friends in sending letters of respect and

congratulation to Professor Park on this day. It was distinctly intimated in the circular that public use would be made of the letters in whole or in part, so that there were no carelessly written communications. More than a hundred letters were returned to the committee, and a large number were received directly by Professor Park in addition. The collection as a whole was an exceedingly significant and valuable one. It surprised even the committee by the depth and intensity of its love and loyalty. These letters came, many of them, from men of eminence and contained expressions of personal regard and reminiscences of the past almost too sacred for the public eye.

Through the solicitation of Mrs. Professor J. W. Churchill of Andover, funds were gathered from a very wide and distinguished circle of friends, a loving-cup was purchased, a large and massive piece of silver plate, with the following inscriptions: "Rev. Professor Edwards A. Park, D.D., L.L.D., 1808—December 29—1898. From pupils and friends. Love abideth ever."

Mrs. Churchill, accompanied by a friend, her husband being absent in Pennsylvania, presented the cup to Professor Park Thursday forenoon. The cup contained ninety pink roses. It was placed on the center-table in the north parlor, so well known to many students, while various gifts from other sources were arranged around it.

In the afternoon, at two o'clock, Professor Park sat down to dinner with his daughter, his niece Miss Edwards, his secretary Miss Partridge, Dr. Furber of Newton Center, and Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Cook. He was evidently somewhat frailer in health than in his final years as active professor, but was by no means broken in physical vigor, and had substantially his usual wit, humor, and vivacity. The scabbard may have been worn, but the blade was keen. He was an hour and a quarter at table, at which the company was now made serious by some acute and profound

remark of his on current events and now brightened by his irresistible wit.

In the parlor, immediately after dinner, the hundred letters were presented to him by Dr. Furber, and specimens of them read, the completion of this no slight but delightful task being left to the Professor's leisure. A noble sonnet by President Rankin of Howard University, and author of the hymn "God be with you till we meet again," the Professor received with a moved countenance and suffused eyes as it was read by Mrs. Cook.

Joseph Cook read a short paper summarizing the varied significance of the letters. Professor Park told a humorous story of Dr. Emmons to whom a friend read, many years before Dr. Emmons' death, a eulogy intended to be used at his funeral. The Doctor frequently interrupted his friend by exclaiming, "It will not do to say this or that," and finally the friend replied, "I am in the pulpit. You have no authority over me. You are in your coffin. You keep still." Dr. Wellman, another member of the committee, had arrived at the beginning of the reading. President Hamlin and Dr. Plumb had been unavoidably detained. Mr. Cook requested Professor Park to mention his favorite hymn and allow the company to sing it as a farewell. Professor Park replied, "My favorite hymn is one which I repeat to myself often in the watches of the night. I have been much troubled with insomnia and frequently occupy myself by repeating hymns as I am forced to lie awake. I find that I forget now and then a word and sometimes a whole line in other favorite hymns. But there is one hymn of which I never forget a syllable. Its first line is,

“ ‘When I survey the wondrous cross.’ ”

This reference to the hymn evidently moved the Professor deeply, and the company immediately rising sang it, led by Dr. Furber at the piano. The sunset light was filling

the room, and it seemed doubtful whether the company would ever again have the pathetic privilege of uniting with Professor Park in so sacred a service. His face bil-  
lowed with emotion, and he seemed to have much difficulty in restraining himself from such expressions of feeling as his strength and majesty of features made one feel that his desire, however unavailing, would lead him to suppress. Those who were present will never forget the scene. At the close of the hymn he began a few words of reply, but his utterance was choked with emotion, and he did not go on. It was suggested that he should offer in parting the prayer of benediction for the company, but his daughter, watching his countenance, said, "He cannot do it. He is too much moved to do it," and Dr. Furber did it in his place. Almost without a word the company departed, with the feeling that the hour which the health of the Professor had enabled him to give to this occasion could hardly have been more fully crowded with significant and precious experiences.