

**A MEMORIAL OF NATHAN
B. CROCKER, D.D.: LATE
RECTOR OF SAINT JOHN'S
CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, R.I.**

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A Memorial of Nathan B. Crocker, D.D.: Late Rector of Saint John's Church, Providence, R.I. by
Richard B. Duane

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RICHARD B. DUANE

**A MEMORIAL OF NATHAN
B. CROCKER, D.D.: LATE
RECTOR OF SAINT JOHN'S
CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, R.I.**

A
MEMORIAL
OF
NATHAN B. CROCKER, D.D.,

LATE RECTOR OF SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH,

PROVIDENCE, R.I.

EDITED BY
RICHARD B. DUANE,
RECTOR.

Providence:
SIDNEY S. RIDER AND BROTHER.

1866.

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1877

U.S.



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PRESS OF JOHN WILSON AND SON.



S E R M O N

PREACHED IN

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE,

ON

Sunday, October 29, 1865,

BY THE

REV. RICHARD B. DUANE, RECTOR.





At a meeting of the Vestry of Saint John's Church, Providence, on the 30th October, 1865, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. DUANE be requested to furnish for publication a copy of the Discourse delivered by him yesterday, in commemoration of the life and services of our late Rector; and that he be respectfully invited to add to it such biographical or historical notes as he may deem of interest or value.





SERMON.

“And they glorified God in me.” — GALATIANS, i. 24.

THIS is the testimony of an inspired apostle. It is his testimony in regard to a matter of fact. It is made with all meekness and lowliness, yet in such a way as to show that the meekness and lowliness were by no means recognized on the part of the writer. With simplicity and godly sincerity, he merely says that “the churches of Judea, which were in CHRIST,” glorified God in him, — that is, gave thanks to God on account of him; praised God for his conversion; praised God for the work which he was doing who now preached the faith which he once destroyed.

The fact which St. Paul here records is no less eminently Christian than the way in which he delivers the statement of it.

When those early simple-hearted Christians heard of St. Paul, and that he who had once been a persecutor and injurious was now a chosen vessel in which the LORD was bearing about the Gospel, they did not glorify the apostle; they did not enumerate, with churchly pride, the gifts and powers of this well-furnished ambassador of CHRIST: but they praised God for it all. And this is the more striking when we remember, that St. Paul, in natural endowments and in all advantages for culture, stood so much higher than the other apostles of the LORD. The account of his conversion excited them to adore the grace of God towards him, and to bless Him for raising up so useful a minister of His word.

As I attempt to-day the duty which the death of our late beloved friend and Rector brings to me, I wish at once to place before you the example of these Judean Christians. It is worthy of imitation. We are to glorify

GOD in him who, for so many years, ministered to you in holy things. We are to thank GOD for his work and service who preached so long the faith which he had before, at least negatively, destroyed. This is our first duty; a duty, I fear, sometimes entirely overlooked, when our memorial sermons are mere panegyrics, good in themselves, but not rising above that which is of the earth, earthy,—not taking into consideration the LORD from heaven, who is also the "LORD of all power and might." For all natural endowments, all gracious influences, all opportunities of usefulness, are equally the gift of one and the self-same SAVIOUR.

Our late Rector was born while as yet the clouds of our Revolutionary War hung over the land. We thus get at the long reach of life which was granted him. When he first saw the light, on the fifth anniversary of the nation's birthday, Cornwallis was being pursued by Lafayette near the James River; while the French under Rochambeau, and the Americans under Washington, were threatening Clinton in New York. The curious in