

**POEMS.
[PHILADELPHIA-
1888]**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649673407

Poems. [Philadelphia-1888] by Halliday Jackson

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HALLIDAY JACKSON

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MEMOIR.

HALLIDAY JACKSON, son of Halliday and Jane (Hough) Jackson, was born near Darby, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, 12th month 27th, 1817. His father was a prominent member of the Society of Friends, and in early life spent two years among the Seneca Indians, instructing them in various industrial pursuits; and in 1830 published a work on the "Civilization of the Indian Nations."

Halliday, Jr., attended Friends' School at Darby, and assisted on the farm. His mother died when he was thirteen. At the age of seventeen, after the death of his father, he went to the boarding-school of Samuel Smith, in Wilmington, Delaware. The following winter was spent at the school of Benjamin Hallowell, at Alexandria, Virginia, and upon his return he made his home with his brother John, who founded Sharon Boarding-School.

At the age of nineteen he commenced teaching school, an occupation he continued for several years. As a teacher he cared little for the authority or power of the office, but took the greatest delight in imparting knowledge to others. Ever ready to discuss important questions,—although never as a partisan,—he felt the liveliest interest in all departments

of Natural Science, and in several of them did good work.

In 1846, he married Caroline Hoopes, daughter of Thomas and Eliza Hoopes, of West Goshen, Chester County, Pennsylvania. In 1849 he was chosen Principal of Friends' Institute in the city of New York; this position he held for five years. While there he met with a sad bereavement in the loss of his beloved wife, leaving him with one son.

In 1854 he married Emily Hoopes, sister of his first wife. Returning from New York he continued teaching until 1863, when his health became impaired, and in order to have the benefit of out-door life, he purchased a farm near West Chester, Pa., where he lived until 1881; then removed to West Chester, but continued to participate in the work of the farm.

In the summer of 1883, he spent a month of great enjoyment among the mountains of western North Carolina, and most of the winter of 1884-85 he resided near Osprey, on the southern Gulf Coast of Florida; studying the botany and zoölogy of that region.

He died of acute disease, at his home, the sixth day of Eighth month, 1887, his wife and five children surviving him.

He was quiet and unobtrusive in manner, never

allowing himself to be drawn too deeply into controversy, and more anxious to correct or avoid mistakes of his own, than to point out the errors of others; liberal and open-minded, and always desirous of knowing the truth.

When fifteen years of age he attended lectures on Astronomy illustrated by an orrery, which made a strong impression on him, and while at school at Alexandria, he calculated the recent transit of Venus, and many of the eclipses of the sun and moon visible in this country during the present century; and in later years, with the aid of a portable telescope, it was one of his greatest pleasures to study and show to others the movements and characteristics of the heavenly bodies.

He owned one of the first microscopes made by Zentmayer, of Philadelphia, and during the last few years of his life devoted much time to microscopy; studying especially cryptogamic botany. During his residence in New York, he made a collection of the "marine Algæ" of the neighboring coast, carefully identifying and arranging them. He also made a collection of land plants, now at Swarthmore College, and a small collection of minerals and fossils. He belonged rather to the generation of *collectors* who amassed the wealth of specimens and isolated

facts, from which have been built the splendid generalizations of modern science. He was an early reader of Darwin's "Origin of Species," and a keen and appreciative observer of the later advances in biology.

In earlier life he delivered popular lectures on Natural Science; and in later years took an active part in the West Chester Microscopical Society. He was particularly successful in leading his hearers out of their ordinary paths of thought into the contemplation of the Divine purpose and harmony as nature exhibits them.

A well-marked characteristic was his patient, persevering industry; it was this that enabled him to gather and arrange his various collections in hours of leisure.

In 1875 a sesqui-centennial reunion of the Jackson family was held at the original homestead, near West Grove, Chester Co., Pa. A committee, including Halliday Jackson, was appointed to publish an account of its proceedings. He went to work on the genealogy of the family, and three years later (with the aid of his brother William) published a record of the Jackson family, extending from the earliest ancestors traceable in England down to the present time, as far as it was furnished him. Since his decease,

Thomas Greer, of London, one of the descendants of the Jackson family, has, by arduous search, discovered in the library of the British Museum, the genealogy of the family, extending back four generations beyond the published record, and also the coat of arms which was confirmed to Richard Jackson in 1613, this record giving an account of more than three thousand persons. His other published writings were mainly newspaper articles on scientific subjects, with letters written while traveling, and poems, most of which are collected in this volume.

He was a member of the Society of Friends, well suited with its spirit and form of worship, to which the family for generations had belonged. He was an Elder, and for several years served as clerk in meetings of the Society, a position for which he was especially fitted, by command of language, quick apprehension and knowledge of the Discipline, and desire for fair and accurate statements.

His devotions were not to a theological phantasm ; or a philosophical abstraction ; but to the Maker and Upholder of the Universe, the God who colors the shells, whispers in the breeze, holds planets and sidereal systems in their appointed paths, and carries forward the unending genesis of life ; the loving Father who makes all things work together for good.