

**RETROSPECT OF A HAPPY MINISTRY; THE  
LIFE STORY OF HALF A CENTURY,  
INCLUDING PERSONAL REMINISCENCES,  
AND A COMPLETE HISTORY FROM ITS FIRST  
INCEPTION OF THE WEST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH, BINGHAMTON, N.Y.**

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Retrospect of a Happy Ministry; The Life Story of Half a Century, Including Personal Reminiscences, and a Complete History from Its First Inception of the West Presbyterian Church, Binghamton, N.Y. by Samuel Dunham

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**SAMUEL DUNHAM**

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REV. SAMUEL DUNHAM.

Pastor of the West Church during its first twenty-nine years,  
1873-1902. Pastor Emeritus since January 3, 1902.

RETROSPECT  
OF A HAPPY MINISTRY

*The Life Story of Half a Century*

INCLUDING PERSONAL REMINISCENCES, AND A COMPLETE  
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BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

BY

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The First Pastor

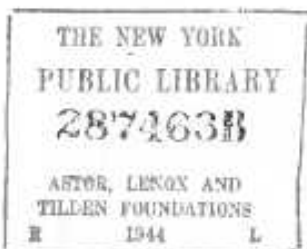
*With Portraits of the Successive Pastors, and  
Views of Church Edifices and  
Parsonage*

ALSO AN APPENDIX

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Copyright, 1914  
By SAMUEL DUNHAM

TO THE GENEROUS HOSTS OF FAITHFUL FRIENDS, ON EARTH AND IN HEAVEN, WHO HAVE SO OFTEN CHEERED MY HEART, AND BLESSED MY HOME, AND GLADDENED MY DAYS OF TOIL AND TRIAL, AND BRIGHTENED MY MINISTRY, AND ENRICHED MY WHOLE LIFE, AND KEPT ME FROM GROWING OLD, BY THEIR WARM, CHEERY GREETINGS AND KINDLY WORDS, AND CORDIAL FRIENDSHIP, AND LOVING SYMPATHY, THROUGH ALL THESE HAPPY,

GOLDEN YEARS,

THIS VOLUME IS AFFECTIONATELY  
DEDICATED,

WITH A PROFOUND AND TENDER SENSE  
OF GRATITUDE TO THEM AND TO THE  
FRIEND AND BROTHER OF US ALL.

*Revised - 25 July 1904*



*"Recollection is the only paradise  
from which we cannot be turned out."*

RICHTER.

*"Those first affections,  
Those shadowy recollections:  
Which, be they what they may,  
Are yet the fountain-light of all our day,  
Are yet a master light of all our seeing."*

WILLIAM WORDSWORTH.

*"Though varying wishes, hopes, and fears,  
Fever'd the progress of these years,  
Yet now, days, weeks, and months, but seem  
The recollection of a dream."*

SCOTT.

## PREFATORY NOTE

ON May 4, 1898, at a regular meeting of the Session of the West Presbyterian Church, it was unanimously resolved that the proceedings connected with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the installation of the Pastor, Rev. Samuel Dunham (April 24, 1898), be published; but that the work of publication be delayed until the fuller record could be made after the completion and dedication of the new house of worship.

For various reasons the delay has been prolonged far beyond the time expected.

Meantime, the plans of the writer have been considerably modified, and the scope of the work much enlarged to include some interesting reminiscences of the earlier and later years of his ministry, and, especially, to bring the record down to date, so as to embrace briefly the closing years of his own pastorate and the pastorates of his successors.

