

**BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD
OF THE CLASS OF 1865,
OF HAMILTON COLLEGE**

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Biographical Record of the Class of 1865, of Hamilton College by Hamilton B. Tompkins

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HAMILTON B. TOMPKINS

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OF HAMILTON COLLEGE**

Presented by
H. B. Tompkins's
229 B. W.
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF THE
CLASS OF 1865,
OF
HAMILTON COLLEGE.



BY
Booker
HAMILTON B. TOMPKINS,
SECRETARY OF THE CLASS.

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of the

JUL 9 1977
NEW YORK

DEAR CLASSMATES :

I have endeavored, as far as possible, to compile a record of the Class of 'Sixty-five. The task assigned me has not been an easy, though a pleasant one. It was pleasant to hear from those whom time and distance had separated for so long, bringing up to my recollection, as it will to yours, the halcyon days of college life and its happy associations.

The historian returns thanks to those who have so promptly aided him in his labors, and regrets that he has not been able to give a full and complete history of every member of the class.

My heart was saddened to find "the gap in our picked and chosen" the long years had made, and that more than one sixth of those who had entered our ranks with as bright anticipations and hopes for the future as any of us had been called away.

"One by one we miss the voices that we loved so well to hear,
One by one the kindly faces in the shadow disappear."

Their work is accomplished. We cherish their memories, as we honored them while living. Those who are left have taken their positions in life, and are doing good service in their different callings, reflecting credit upon themselves and their Alma Mater.

NEW YORK, May 1, 1877.

" WE live in deeds, not years ; in thoughts, not breaths ;
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best."

SILAS HOBART ADAMS.

SAD is it, in writing the history of the first name on the list of our classmates, we have to write the record of one who was early summoned away, by the Almighty Dispenser of events, from the service of the church and the world, a young man of blameless character, and an intelligent, earnest Christian.

Silas Hobart Adams, a brother of the late Dr. Seymour W. Adams, of the class of 1839, was born in Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., on the 15th of January, 1845. He pursued his preparatory course of study at the Oneida Seminary, and entered Hamilton College on the 12th of September, 1862, joining the class of 1865, at the beginning of its Sophomore year. He was a most diligent student, close in his application to his college work, and from the outset took the first position in the class, which rank he steadily maintained. He took the first classical prize in Junior year, and graduated at Commencement with the highest honor. His Valedictory was full of deep feeling, and his farewell words to the class were touching and appropriate. Little did we realize that, to most of us at least, we saw him then for the last time.

After graduating he became engaged as a teacher in the Ithaca Academy, which position he held for three years with such positive and increasing success that his best friends convinced him that the work of a Christian teacher should be his chosen life work. He therefore, in the fall of 1868, entered the Rochester Theological Seminary, and was soon after licensed to preach. On the day of prayer for colleges, in February, 1870, he was heard for the last time at a public meeting. His illness began on that day, the 24th of February, and he died in Rochester on the 5th of March following. On the 9th of March he was carried to his grave in Oneida by his classmates from the Rochester Seminary.

Professor North, to whom we are indebted for the facts relating to our classmate, after leaving college, thus concludes his notice of him in the necrological list of the College for 1870 :

"Silas H. Adams was a Christian gentleman. He made no offensive boasts. He seemed to be free from envy and uncharity. He could rejoice heartily in the success of another as if it were his own. It is not right to say that his life here was incomplete, because he was taken to a better life just as he was about to enter upon the work of a Christian minister. His years of study were full of Christian activity. He could not have done as much for Christ, because of narrower opportunities, if his few years had been spent in business."

A memoir of Mr. Adams was published, shortly after his death, by Rev. Theodore C. Jerome, of the

class of 1869, a copy of which we regret we have been unable to obtain, in order to have given some details in regard to our classmate's early life.

In personal appearance Mr. Adams was rather below the usual height, slender frame, and light complexion. He was quiet and retiring in his disposition, but those who knew him best found in him a warm, generous, sympathetic nature. Unostentatious in his manner, pure in mind, conscientious in the discharge of every duty, his memory will linger long in the hearts of those who knew him best, as a true man and a faithful friend.

GEORGE HENRY ALLEN.

WE copy from the record of the class, prepared by William O. Webster in the fall of 1866, the following account of our classmate:

"George Henry Allen was born in the village of Oriskany Falls, on the 23d of August, 1842, and passed his boyhood with his parents at home. At the age of eighteen he entered Whitestown Seminary, Whites-town, N. Y., for the purpose of preparing for college. Making rapid progress in his studies, he entered Hamilton College as Freshman September 12th, 1861. During this year in college, by his modest bearing he won the esteem of every member of his class, while his quiet and reserved manners gained for him the highest respect.