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*Barrett, Gerrish—b. Royalston, Mass., July 4, 1797; U. C., 1824; (2-); ord.
Phy. Otsego, Aug. 22, '27; chap. Sing Sing, N. Y., '27-29; agt. Prison Discip.
Soc. '29-31; chap. Wethersfield, Conn., '31-32; agt. Pris. Disc. Soc. '32-33;
chap. Wethersfield, '33-39; agt. Pris. Disc. Soc. '39-44; d. Springfield, N. Y.,
Aug. 3, 1857. *Brunswick Theol. Cat. 1894.*

*Classy
1824*

Rev. GERRISH BARRETT, A.M., 1824 of Sing Sing, N.Y., was a member of the Adelpic
Society. (Died: 1857)

Adelpic Catalogue 1830

CLASS OF 1824

GERRISH BARRETT

Second son of Major Benjamin Fiske and Betsey (Gerrish) Barrett was born in Royalton, Mass., July 4, 1797.

He remained at home assisting his father in his business until 1813, when at the age of sixteen years he left his father to engage as a clerk in a country store at Cherry Valley, N. Y., with Mr. Magher, with whom he remained five years. During this period he received private instruction from Rev. Eli F. Cooley, his future father-in-law, pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Cherry Valley with the intention of preparing for the ministry, and remained there one year under the tuition of Prof. McFarland, who was at that time principal of the Academy at Cherry Valley. He then upon the recommendation and advice of his brother, Rev. Samuel Barrett, went to Andover, Mass., and entered Phillips Academy, where he received a thorough preparatory education. In the Autumn of 1821 he went to Schenectady, N. Y., entered the Sophomore Class of Union College, and was graduated from that institution, in course, in the Class of 1824. In the 11th day of November, 1824, he entered Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J., and was graduated therefrom in the Class of 1827. On the 16th day of August, 1826, (before his graduation from the Theological Seminary) he was, at Cherry Valley, N. Y., licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Otsego County, and on the 22nd day of August, 1827, at Middlefield, Otsego Co., N. Y., he was, by the same Presbytery, regularly ordained as a Presbyterian minister.

He began his ministerial labors in May, 1827, as Chaplain of the State Prison at Sing Sing, N. Y. He remained there a little more than two years, when, on the sixth day of August, 1829, he was appointed Agent of the Prison Discipline Society and served in that capacity for nearly two years.

February 4, 1831, he was appointed Chaplain of the State Prison at Wethersfield, Conn., where he remained until July 3, 1832. He was then (1832) re-appointed Agent of the Prison Discipline Society, the duties of which he discharged for one year, when he was again appointed Chaplain of the State Prison in Wethersfield, Conn., where he remained until March 15, 1839. In 1839 he was again re-appointed Agent of the Prison Discipline Society, which position he held until 1844, a period of five years. As the Agent of the Prison Discipline Society, he visited and inspected nearly every prison in the United States, made detailed reports upon the same, and presented the cause of Prison Reform in nearly all the large cities of the United States.

CLASS OF 1824--GERRISH BARRETT--2

Rev. Mr. Barrett declined to accept calls to become a settled pastor over any church, preferring to devote his life and energies to the cause of State Prison Reform, to which he gave seventeen years of the best years of his life. In 1844, about the time of his father's death, he retired to the "Old Homestead," at Springfield, which he purchased in 1847, and thereafter occupied his time in agricultural pursuits, occasionally supplying pulpits of his brother ministers in different places.

Rev. Gerrish Barrett was an able man, of scholarly tastes and attainments, and rendered able and efficient service in the cause of Prison Discipline and Reform to which he devoted the greater portion of his professional life.

Rev. Gerrish Barrett was married at Ewing, N. J., October 14, 1847, to Mrs. Catharine (Cooley) Purdy, daughter of Rev. Eli F. Cooley, D.D., and widow of Col. Joseph Purdy. She was born at Cherry Valley, N. Y., August 6, 1813.

CHILDREN:

1. William Cooley Born July 12, 1848 (Princeton 1867)
2. Charles Scudder Born June 29, 1850 (Princeton 1871)
3. Sarah Lucinda Born May 13, 1853; she died at Springfield, N. Y., May 16, 1859, aged 6 years and 3 days.

Catharine (Cooley-Purdy) Barrett died at Springfield, N.Y., September 9, 1855, aged 42 years, one month and 13 days.

Rev. Gerrish Barrett died at Springfield, N. Y., September 2, 1857, aged 60 years, one month and 29 days.

FROM Genealogy---Descendants of Thomas Barrett, Sen.
William Barrett
D. Ramaley & Son St. Paul, Minn. 1888.