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OCT 24 1933

Reverend Gilbert Robert Livingston of the class of 1805
at Union and 1810 here, was born at Sanford, Conn., in 1786
and died in 1834. I wish to know the month and day of his
birth, the place of his death and the month and day of his
death. *Thom, New Brunswick Theol. Seminary*

XI

Dr. Gunn, as a Writer, was highly respectable. Besides his life of Dr. Livingston, which is his chief work, he published several things in pamphlet form, among which is a controversial pamphlet or two, which evince a very accurate knowledge of his subject, and a good degree of polemic skill. His style is always perspicuous and direct.

He was a fine specimen of a man. His memory is embalmed in many hearts.

Very affectionately yours,

J. M. MATHEWS.

GILBERT ROBERT LIVINGSTON, D.D.*

1808—1834.

GILBERT ROBERT LIVINGSTON was a descendant of the Rev. John Livingston, of the Church of Scotland, celebrated for his connection with the great Revival at the Kirk of Shotts. He was a son of Gilbert Robert and Martha (Kane) Livingston. His mother was a daughter of John Kane, a native of England, who came to this country in early life, and died at Schenectady, leaving a numerous and respectable family. His father was originally a merchant in the city of New York, and, during the Revolution, adhered to the Royal cause. He resided, for a time, at Stamford, Conn., and here, on the 8th of October, 1786, his son, *Gilbert R.* was born. He subsequently fixed his abode in the town of Beekman, Dutchess County, N. Y., and there his son passed his early years, except while he was with his mother's family at Schenectady. He fitted for College chiefly at home, under the instruction of Mr. Mabon, a teacher of some celebrity. He graduated at Union College in 1805, at the first Commencement held under the Presidency of the Rev. Dr. Nott.

Soon after leaving College he commenced the study of Theology under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Perkins, of West Hartford, Conn. Here he continued two years. He seems to have had an early predilection for the Ministry, but there is no evidence that his mind had received a permanently serious direction until after he had commenced his theological course; and he did not make a public profession of religion till the year 1807.

He was licensed to preach by the North Association of Hartford County, June 7, 1808. He then went to New York, and studied two years more, under his relative, the Rev. Dr. J. H. Livingston, thus passing through the entire course prescribed by the Reformed Dutch Church. He was received under the care of the New York Classis, as a candidate, May 29, 1810,—his licensure, by the Hartford Association, two years before, being duly recognized.

On the 9th of August, 1811, he received a call to settle in the ministry from the Reformed Dutch Church in Coxsackie, N. Y.; and, having accepted the call, was ordained and installed Pastor of said Church, on the 4th of December following.

On the 17th of September, 1812, Mr. Livingston was married to Eliza, daughter of Ebenezer Burrill, Esq., of New York. They had nine children,

* MS. from Rev. Dr. Alden.

four of whom died in infancy, and five, with their mother, survived their father. One of the sons, a graduate of Williams College, became a clergyman, and another settled as a lawyer in the city of New York. One of the daughters is married to Sidney E. Morse, Esq., of New York, and another to the Rev. Dr. Alden, President of Jefferson College.

Mr. Livingston remained at Cossackie nearly fifteen years. It was an extensive field, and he devoted himself most assiduously to the cultivation of it; indeed, he performed an amount of labour which, but for his uncommon vigour of constitution and great power of endurance, would have been quite impossible. Three revivals of religion took place under his ministry, the latter of which was very extensive and powerful, and brought into the church, in one year, three hundred and seventy-three persons on a profession of their faith. About six hundred were added to it during his ministry.

In the autumn of 1826 he accepted a call from the First Reformed Dutch Church in Philadelphia, and was installed as its Pastor, by the Classis of Philadelphia, in the month of November. Here he passed the residue of his days. The success of his labours in this field may be estimated by the fact that he received three hundred and twenty persons to the communion of the church, and upwards of one hundred in a single year.

In the year 1829 he was honoured with the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Williams College.

In August, 1833, while on a visit to his friends in the State of New York, he noticed some unusual appearances about his mouth, though they were not supposed at first to indicate serious disease. Soon, however, a tumour was discovered, the rapid growth of which was thought to require a surgical operation. This was submitted to on the 19th of October; and, for a few weeks, strong hopes were entertained that he would be restored to health and usefulness. These hopes, however, proved fallacious; for the disease soon revived with increasing power, and turned out to be a cancer. Unable to hold verbal intercourse with his friends, or to take food sufficient to sustain his large and powerful frame, he languished, in extreme suffering, but in the utmost patience, till Sabbath morning, the 9th of March, 1834,—the day on which his people met to commemorate the love of Christ,—when he passed away to mingle in other and higher scenes. His Funeral Sermon was preached by his early friend, the Rev. Dr. Cuyler, from Hebrews xi, 4, and was published.

Dr. Livingston published a Sermon in a volume entitled the "Greene County Preacher;" but, with the exception of a small tract, it is not known that he published any thing besides.

FROM THE REV. JOSEPH ALDEN, D.D.,
PRESIDENT OF JEFFERSON COLLEGE.

JEFFERSON COLLEGE, June 6, 1860.

My dear Sir: I was an inmate of the family of the late Rev. Dr. Gilbert R. Livingston, during a considerable portion of the last year of his life. As no one could well be more unreserved in the family circle, I soon formed, as I suppose, an accurate acquaintance with his character.

Dr. Livingston was naturally of a very affectionate temper. It is believed that he never, either by words or actions, exhibited an angry emotion towards any member of his family. His attachments were strong, lasting and uniform.

He possessed fine social qualities. He was especially fond of the society of his ministerial brethren, and exercised towards them at all times a most generous hospitality. He was constitutionally liberal and magnanimous.

It could not be said that he was a man of genius, in the popular sense of that word, nor of very extensive or varied acquirements; and yet he possessed decided talent. He had strong perceptive powers; he had wisdom to form his plans and energy to carry them into execution. I never heard him charged with saying or doing a weak or foolish thing. Hence he obtained a strong influence over those with whom he came in contact, and especially with whom he was brought into intimate relations.

Dr. Livingston was well acquainted with human nature. Throughout his whole life he was accustomed to study men rather than books. His habits of observation were accurate, and his conclusions seldom, if ever, warped by prejudice or passion. This knowledge, while it rendered him successful in influencing other minds, never led him to adopt a sinister policy. He did not take advantage of the weakness of men to further his objects. He was frank and honest, and, so far as I know, possessed the entire confidence of all who knew him.

Dr. Livingston was eminently devoted to his work as a Minister—the desire to save the souls committed to his charge seemed to have all the force of a ruling passion. In labours he may be truly said to have been abundant. He uniformly preached three times on the Sabbath, and attended meetings always three, and often five, evenings in the week. He pursued a regular course of pastoral visitation, endeavouring, as far as possible, to bring religion home as a personal matter to the hearts and consciences of all his people. He performed also a large amount of occasional labour for his brethren in the ministry. Every judicious enterprise of benevolence found in him an ardent friend and an efficient advocate.

His views of Theology were fully in accordance with the standards of the Reformed Dutch Church. In the management of Revivals, of which he was an earnest friend and advocate, he fell, to some extent, into the use of what were called "the new measures"; but he became tired of the system, and I think heartily abjured it before his death. In the first extensive revival that took place under his ministry, he doubtless erred in admitting persons to the church too hastily; but his experience rectified the error, and, in his latter years, he required a probation of at least three months after professed conversion.

As a Preacher, he was earnest, energetic, direct and discriminating. He addressed chiefly the understanding and the conscience. He more frequently appealed to the fears than to the gentler emotions of the heart. He was the strong man armed, who rushed impetuously on the foe; who saved men, plucking them out of the fire. His personal appearance was much in his favour, his voice was one of great power, and his action dignified and commanding.

Very faithfully yours,

JOSEPH ALDEN.

FROM THE REV. HENRY G. LUDLOW.

POUGHKEEPSIE, February 28, 1857.

Rev. and dear Brother: The late Dr. Gilbert R. Livingston, concerning whom we conversed a few days since, was one of my earliest ministerial friends. Shortly after indulging the Christian's hope, and while in the transition state from the Bar to the Pulpit, I held meetings in my native town, Kinderhook, and addressed the people, in a school-house, on the bank of the Hudson, on the great subject of the salvation of the soul. While thus occupied, on the 29th of December, 1820, the Spirit of the Lord came down and

filled the church. About thirty were deeply impressed, and the good work thus auspiciously commenced ceased not until between three and four hundred were added to the church, then under the pastoral care of their devoted minister, the Rev. Dr. Sickles. Having heard of the revival, Dr. Livingston soon appeared in our meetings, and manifested the greatest interest in the progress of the work. It soon spread through his own congregation, and resulted in an immense addition to his church, that seemed to carry one back almost to Pentecostal times. I remained with him until October, 1821, when I left, to become a member of the Princeton Theological Seminary.

Dr. Livingston was of a tall, athletic form, and his whole physical aspect was one of uncommon dignity. He had a fine face,—his complexion was fair, his features regular, his forehead high, his eyes hazel and expressive at once of intelligence and affection. The engraved portrait of him, which you have doubtless seen, is a very truthful representation of his outer man.

The leading characteristic of Dr. Livingston's mind was, I think, sound common sense, or great practical wisdom; and this rendered him a safe and excellent counsellor. He was remarkable, also, for great delicacy and purity, and never could tolerate the least departure from it in the conversation or conduct of others. He was eminently social in his feelings, and possessed, withal, a playfulness and buoyancy of spirit that made him a most agreeable companion. He was ardent and firm in his attachments, and most cordial in all his expressions of good will. I shall never forget the occasion of my farewell meeting with that noble man and his noble congregation, when, rising in his pulpit to express for them and for himself their interest in me, and their desires for my future prosperity, he burst into a flood of tears, so as for some time to obstruct his utterance.

Dr. Livingston was a lover of good men. While he was always faithful to the interests of his own denomination, his large Christian heart cordially welcomed all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, without stopping to inquire beneath what denominational banner they ranged themselves. I think I never knew a more truly catholic and unsectarian spirit than he possessed.

He was most deeply interested in the cause of Revivals of Religion, believing as he did that they were identified, in no small degree, with the prosperity and final triumph of the Church. Hence, he laboured in season and out of season to secure these gracious visitations of the Holy Spirit, and to render them as protracted as possible. No small part of the efficiency of his whole ministry was in connection with revivals.

My last visit to Dr. Livingston was while the disease (a cancer in the mouth) was in progress, that terminated his life. Rising from his seat, and walking the room with a firm step, he said,—“I am as able as ever I was to preach, but for this malady.” He contemplated the issue with great solemnity, and yet with joyful confidence; he knew in whom he had believed, and doubted not that He would keep that which he had committed unto Him, against the day of his appearing.

Will you allow me, in concluding this brief notice of my lamented friend, to pay a passing tribute to one concerning whom I might speak in the language of an Apostle as “his mother and mine.” I knew her for upwards of twenty years, and had every opportunity of observing her admirable qualities of mind and heart. I have always thought that the true secret of the eminent piety and usefulness of her son was that he had such a mother. Though she was born and reared amidst wealth and fashion, she trained her own children on strictly Christian principles, and her grand aim was to imbue them with the spirit of the Gospel,—and in this she was, by God's blessing, eminently successful. Besides being a most diligent student of the Bible, she was familiar with many of the best writers in the language, especially on experimental

religion; and of the works of Newton and Romaine she could repeat large extracts verbatim. I never knew

a person who seemed to me to walk more humbly with God. She survived her son a few years, and then followed him to his rest.

1805 Gilbert Robert Livingston

Born Oct. 16, 1786 in Stamford, Conn. and died March 9, 1834, in his 48th year in Philadelphia. On Sept. 17, 1812, he married Elizabeth Thompson Burrill, who was born who was born in May, 1792 and died Aug. 7, 1870 in Albany. She was a daughter of Ebenezeer Burrill and Phoebe (Cahoone) Burrill, of Hartford, Conn., and a sescendant of the Hon. Ebenezeer Burrill, who was a representative from Lynn, Mass., to the General Court of Massachusetts, 1764-1774.

Mr. Livingston was graduated from Union College in 1805 and studied for the ministry under Dr. Perkins, of Connecticut. and the Rev. John H. Livingston of New Brunswick, N.J. He was licensed to preach as a minister of the Reformed Dutch Church by the North Hartford Association in 1808 and then studied two more years under Dr. Livingston. Mr. Livingston joined the New York Classis in 1810, was Pastor at Coxsackie, 1811-1826 and Pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia from 1826 until his death in 1834. Williams College bestowed upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

They had five children

N.Y. Biog. & Gen. Record
Gilbert Livingston & Some of His Descendants
pp. 232-233
Vol. 85. p. 237

1805 GILBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

Martha's death

Died: In New York, on Sunday evening last, Martha Livingston, widow of the late Gilbert R. Livingston, in the 88th year of her age.

Mrs. Livingston was a sister of our respected fellow citizen, James Kane, who is now the only survivor of a numerous and highly esteemed family, Mrs. L. was mother of James K. Livingston, of Rochester.-

Daily Albany Argus, April 25, 1843.

GILBERT R. LIVINGSTON

The fifth minister (First Reformed Church, Cossackie) was Gilbert R. Livingston, who was born at Stamford, Conn., in 1786, and was pastor from 1811 to 1826. His labors were productive of much good. In a revival in 1821, 373 persons were brought into the church. From this place he went to Philadelphia, where he died in 1834.

History of Greene County, N. Y. p. 248.

new Brunswick Theological Seminary
*GILBERT ROBERT LIVINGSTON
Born at Stamford, Conn., October 8, 1786. A.B. (Union, 1805). Studied under Perkins of Connecticut, and Livingston. Licensed by North Hartford Association, 1808. Studied further under Livingston, 1808-10. Coxsackie, N. Y., 1811-26. Philadelphia, 1st, 1826-34. D.D. (Williams, 1829). Died March 9, 1834. *1784-1934*

GILBERT R. LIVINGSTON '05 *March 7*

Died--On Sunday evening, 16th instant, Martha Livingston, widow of the late Gilbert R. Livingston, Esq. in the 88th year of her age.

From: The Tribune Tues. morning April 18, 1843
Prof. Pearson's Scrap Book *p. 21.*

Livingston, Gilber Robert, b. at Stamford, Ct., 1786; U.C. 1805, studied under Perkins, of Ct., and Livingston, lic. by North Hartford Assoc. 1808; then studied two more years under Dr. J. H. Livingston; joined Cl. N.Y. May 29, 1810; Cossackie, 11-26, Philadelphia, 26-34, d. D.D. by Wms. C. 1829.

He was of the celebrated family of Scotch Livingstons, of which Prof. J. H. Livingston also came. His field at Cossackie was very laborious and extensive, and required a most vigorous constitution to bear the labor incident to it. But his labors abounded. He enjoyed while there three revivals, the last especially extensive, bringing three hundred and seventy-three into fellowship with the church, (1821). About six hundred were added to this church under his ministry; in Philadelphia, about three hundred. His life was strictly devoted to the glory of God. He pursued this object with diligence and zeal, and it was manifest that his heart was in it, so that he produced an unusual impression on the public. Yet his piety was never obtrusive, but modest, humble, and retiring.

He was never a rigid student, nor what might be called a ripe scholar. He was always actively engaged in distributing at once what he could gather, as food to hungry souls. The character of his preaching was rather pungent and forcible than eloquent and persuasive. The object at which he most habitually aimed was to make Christians active, and to make sinners bow to the Lord's scepter, under the conviction that they had rebelled against him. Perhaps he was not sufficiently aware of the importance of enlarged Christian knowledge to right and efficient action, and that some who can not be driven to submission by the force of conviction may yet be drawn by the power of affectionate persuasion; still he was among the most efficient and successful preachers of the gospel.

His religion was benevolent and expansive. His heart was engaged in everything which had for its object the dissemination of divine truth, the glory of God, and the salvation of men. Hence he was the active friend of every great enterprise of Christian benevolence and practical Christianity. After he lost the power of speech, from cancer in the mouth, he wrote to the teachers of his Sabbath-school, entreating them to be faithful in their trust of the little ones, impressing anew their responsibility on their minds. In a similar manner he wrote to those who sustained the prayer-meetings, and the monthly concert, and to individuals.—Funeral Discourse by Rev. C. C. Cuyler. "Sprague's Annals."

USCaf 1805 Livingston - 9 - 00010

PUBLICATIONS: A ser. in "Greene Co. Preacher" and a tract.

the politics of the day, which gave offence to those who would eliminate religion from politics. His complaints of disease were thought to be imaginary by his friends, but the sad event proved their reality. His great-grandson, Hon. John Blair Linn, was Secretary of State of Pennsylvania, and much given to Historical Research.—Fun. Sermon by Dr. Bradford, in part in "Sprague's Annals." Dr. De Witt's Hist. Disc., 1854. See also "Blake's Biog. Dict." "Mag. R.D.C." iv. 1. "Sprague's Annals." "Duyckinck's Cyc." i. 201, 326. "McClintock's Cyc." "Collegiate Ch. Year Book," 1888, p. 87.

PUBLICATIONS: A ser. at Carlisle, Pa., before a reg. of soldiers. 1776. (Reprinted in "Christian Intell." Dec. 7, 1876.)—"The Blessings of America." July 4, 1791, at the request of the Tammany Society.—A vol. of sermons, historical and characteristic. 1791.—Ser. on the "Spiritual Death and Life of the Believer." 1791.—(In "American Preacher," vol. i.)—A ser. on the "Christian Warfare." 1793. (In "Am. Preacher," vol. iii.)—"The Character of Simon the Sorcerer": a ser. designed to prove that Baptism is not Regeneration. 1793.—Remarks on Dr. Moore's Address to Members of Prot. Epis. Ch. in N.Y.C. 1793.—A vol. of discourses on "Signs of the Times." 1794.—Thanksgiving Discourse after an Epidemic. 1795.—A disc. at Hackensack, at a meeting of the Synod's Commission to compose certain differences, etc. 1796.—Disc. on National Sins. 1798.—Eulogy on Washington, delivered before N.Y. Soc. of Cincinnati. 1800.—A ser. before N.Y. Miss. Soc. 1800.—A collection of essays on Episcopacy, originally pub. in the "Albany Centinel," were ascribed to Dr. Linn, Rev.

a time he resolved to devote himself to the ministry, and to prepare for the Dutch Church in preference to the Presbyterian or Episcopal, chiefly because of the sad dissensions then existing among the Dutch, which he felt it his duty to try to heal. He even felt in his heart that Providence would make him the instrument to accomplish these results. (HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION.) *usaf/1805livingston-g-00011*

He spent the winter of 1765-6 in New York, and greatly enjoyed the society of Domine Laidlie. He sailed May 12, 1766, for Holland, to prepare for the ministry. He was the last of the American youth who went to Holland for this purpose. In Holland he made many warm friends, and

From: New Brunswick Theol Sem. Cat. 1784-1911.
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1810. Removal of the Seminary

1805

GILBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

DIED: At Philadelphia, on the 9th inst. in the
48th year of his age, the Rev. Gilbert R. Livingston,
D. D., pastor of the First Dutch Church, Crown Street.

Albany Gazette
March 14, 1834.

Livingston, Gilbert Robert, b. at Stamford, Ct., 1786; U.C. 1805, studied under Perkins, of Ct., and Livingston, lic. by North Hartford Assoc. 1808; then studied two more years under Dr. J. H. Livingston; joined Cl. N.Y. May 29, 1810; Cocksackie, 11-26, Philadelphia, 26-34, d. D.D. by Wms. C. 1829.

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See Manual, 1902.

PUBLICATIONS: A ser. in "Greene Co. Preacher" and a tract.

CLASS OF 1805

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PUBLICATIONS: A ser. in "Greene Co. Preacher" and a tract.

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Corwin
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Livingston, Gilbert Robert

1805

Greene County Preacher (Sermon)

Gilbert Robert Livingston - 9 B - 1805

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1805
Gilbert Baker Livingston