

BURROUGHS, BENJAMIN

Graduated from Union College 1828 with an A.B. Degree

The following information regarding Benjamin Burroughs was taken from Union College Student Records, First Term 1827-1828 to Second Term 1828-1829, in which Burroughs was listed as No. 13:

Academic Year 1827-1828 - Senior Year

	<u>First Term</u> <u>Ending December</u>	<u>Second Term</u> <u>Ending April</u>	<u>Third Term</u> <u>Ending July</u>
Attendance	100%	100%	
Conduct	100	100	
Blair	95		
Geometry	100		
Natural History	100		
Natural Philosophy		98	
Hebrew		98	100%
Elements of Criticism		98	
Anatomy			95
Physiology			95
Botany, Mineralogy & Technology			85

Recd. Dec. 18 / 1855

1828

Pendleton S.C., Dec 11 1855

Jon. Pearson Esqr

Lib. Union College

Dear Sir

Some months ago

I received a request from you
for information respecting my
classmate & friend Rev B. Burroughs
& some other graduates of Union.
I have been so much of a wanderer
ever since that it has not been in
my power to comply with your
request till now. I send you a
Biographical sketch of the B. which
will give you all you desire respect
ing him. As to the others, I can
only state now that Hugh Nelson of
the class of 27 lives on John's Island
as a planter. I will keep the
names of the others & when I can will
inform you respecting them

With great respect

Yours

John B. Adger

class 1828 *Borroughs, Benjamin—b. Savannah, Ga., Oct. 25, 1807; U. C., 1828; (2+);
ord. Pby. New York, Sept. 15, '31; s. s. Milledgeville, Ga., '31-34; s. s. White
Bluff Cong. ch., Savannah, '34-36; p. e. Presb. ch., Tallahassee, Fla., '37-39;
s. s. White Bluff, Ga., '40-54; d. Bath, Ga., Sept. 14, 1854.

Princeton Theol. Sem. 1894

BENJAMIN BURROUGHS, 1828, of Savannah, Geo, . was a member of the Delphian Institute
Society.
Delphian Catalogue 1830 (Died: 1854)

Rev. Benjamin Burroughs.

Report of the Committee appointed by the Presbytery of Georgia to prepare an Obituary notice of the Rev. B. Burroughs.

"Rev. Benjamin Burroughs was born in Savannah the 25th of October, 1807. His parents were pious, and his father for many years an Elder in the Independent Presbyterian church of that city. His studies preparatory to entering college were prosecuted at the Academy in Jamaica, Long Island, N. Y., under the care of Mr. Eigenbrot. After spending four years at this Academy he entered Union college, Schenectady, the Sophomore class half advanced. While on a visit to his parents in Savannah, during his junior vacation, he became seriously impressed under the preaching of the Rev. Dr. Bethune, now of Brooklyn, N. Y., and at this time he was hopefully converted and received upon profession of his faith into the Independent Presbyterian church. He graduated with honor at Union college in the year 1828, and shortly after entered Princeton Seminary. He was licensed by the Presbytery of New York the 21st of April, 1831. In the autumn of this year he graduated at Princeton Seminary; and on the 22d of December was married to Miss Rosa M. E. Williams, daughter of Capt. Richard F. Williams, of Savannah. Mr. Burroughs became the stated supply of the church in Milledgeville, and continued there until sometime in 1833. On the 29th of November, 1833, he was received from the Presbytery of New York into the Presbytery of Georgia.

After leaving Milledgeville, he became a supply for the White Bluff church, near Savannah, until April 9, 1835, when he was appointed by the Presbytery to visit the church in Tallahassee, Fla., then vacant and labouring under difficulties. He proceeded to Tallahassee, and on the 11th of May, 1835, the church made out a regular call for him as Pastor; which call was presented by a committee of the congregation, at the next meeting of Presbytery, November 3, 1835, and by Presbytery it was put into the hands of Mr. Burroughs, which call he accepted. The committee appointed by Presbytery to proceed to Tallahassee and install him pastor, on account of the Indian troubles in Florida, did not perform that duty. These Indian troubles continuing, Mr. Burroughs did not remove his family to Tallahassee until March 27, 1837, at which time he entered upon his ministerial labors; and continued them, except when suffering under protracted ill-health, until May 1, 1839. At a meeting of Presbytery June 6, 1839, he asked and obtained leave of Presbytery (the church in Tallahassee agreeing thereto) to withdraw his acceptance of the call to become their pastor, the bad health of himself and family not allowing him to remain longer in Florida. Of his services in Tallahassee, B. F. Whitner, Esq., an elder of that church, remarks, "His coming amongst us was in the spirit of a missionary and not without its privations in other regards than health. From 1835 to 1839 we were embarked in building and in paying for a church edifice, at a cost of over ten thousand dollars, and Mr. Burroughs cheerfully accepted less than a support at our hands." He was highly esteemed and beloved by the church, and they parted with him with regret.

Returning to Georgia, he was again invited to become the stated supply of the White Bluff church, and he entered regularly upon his duties about the beginning of the year 1840. At the session of the Synod of Georgia, in November of the year 1840, he was set off with other ministers to form the new Presbytery of Florida; to this he consented on account of the great interest which he had in the religious improvement of that State. He continued in connection with the Presbytery of Florida, though stated supply of the White Bluff church, until April 3, 1847, when he was received back again into the Presbytery of Georgia.

Of his ministry at White Bluff, which con-

particularly interested in their welfare, as being identical with that of the community in which his own interest lay. Hence he visited and attended upon the sick and the poor with more than ordinary zeal and labour. It was his invariable habit never to suffer a regular attendant upon the services of the sanctuary to be absent more than twice, without waiting upon him or her and ascertaining the cause of such absence. With such a spirit of labor on his part, in conjunction with his forcible, faithful and searching style of preaching it was to be expected that so long as there was material, there would appear evidences of ministerial success. And such, in fact, was the result during the first year of his ministry. In the latter part of it the congregation was much diminished by deaths and removals. His spirits were affected by this decline in number in his ministerial charge, and two years before his death he removed to the city of Savannah, and occupied, in addition to his charge at White Bluff, a city missionary, in the employ of a society composed of ladies. For this society he laboured but one year, but he is held in grateful remembrance by the poor among whom he went about doing good. All classes of people and denominations of Christians at White Bluff cherish the memory of Mr. Burroughs, as a kind man and faithful minister. Thus, when his estate was wound up, there were persons who purchased, or desired to purchase, articles simply as memorials of one for whom they entertained so much respect and affection."

About a year before his own death, he passed through the deep affliction of the loss of his wife. Their attachment commenced in their childhood, and continued to the sad moment of separation. Ten children were the fruit of their happy marriage, four died before their mother and six survive their parents.

"It was," observed a near relative, "in the faithful discharge of his duties as city missionary, in the city of Savannah, in the ever to be remembered summer of 1854, that he contracted the epidemic of Yellow Fever, which then prevailed with so much violence. Untiring in his efforts to relieve the sufferings of the sick and destitute, he labored day and night. When frequently urged by his friends and relatives to leave the city, he uniformly answered, "I am but discharging my duty, and I feel it my duty to remain."

But being earnestly importuned by an elder and afflicted brother to accompany him and his family to Richmond Bath, he reluctantly consented, but with the intention and expectation of returning to Savannah in ten days. He arrived at Bath on Saturday, and engaged to supply the pulpit of the pastor of that place the next day. But meanwhile he was attacked with symptoms of Yellow Fever, which, however, were not at all alarming until Wednesday of the following week. On Wednesday night he died.

The Rev. R. K. Porter, Pastor of the church, was with him in his last hours, and having asked him if he could assent to the truth of a passage of Scripture read to him, replied, "O, yes, I have never received God's word with a partial faith, but with all my mind and heart." These were the last words he was heard to utter. And thus did he die, as he had lived, by faith in the Son of God.

Our deceased brother was a truly pious man, strictly sound in doctrine, and devoted to his own branch of the Church of Christ, yet charitable to all others; of a warm and sincere address in his pulpit exercises, which convinced his hearers that he fully believed and felt what he uttered, and this prepared them to give his message a candid consideration. He was free from attempts at display, or affectation of wisdom and learning. His aim was to declare the truth of God, and thereby to benefit men. He was modest in respect to his own attainments, deferential to the opinions and judgments of others, especially his brethren in the ministry, for whom he ever exhibited respect and warm affection. He was generous, and of a cheerful and agreeable manner and temper; and in his long connection with our Presbytery, although sometimes tried, we never saw the shadow of unkind feeling cross his brow, nor heard a word of bitterness escape his lips. He was full of brotherly love, and was always an agreeable and happy, as well as an active member of our body, whom all the brethren loved. His ministry, especially at White Bluff, was not without a Divine blessing. For the size of the congregation at White Bluff, there occurred an extensive revival while he acted as pastor to that church; and it was this blessing that so endeared him to that people. He was enabled to bear his afflictions with meekness and peaceful submission to God's will and when called to minister under

Benjamin Burroughs A.B. 1828

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