

CLASS OF 1833

WM. PAGE DAVIS

b. at Ware, Mass., Sept. 6, 1806; U.C. 33; studied theology one year with President Nott; two years with Dr. Beman, of Troy, N. Y. (supplying Hamilton, Union and Bethlehem (Presbyt.), 1834-43), Princetown, N. Y., 43-8, Helderberg, 48-52, Coeymans and New Baltimore, 52-6 (SS., Rochester and Vienna, Wis., Presbyt. six months in 1856), Helderberg, 56-70, Rotterdam, 2d, 71-5, Lawyersville, 77-84; died Jan. 7, 1894.

The natural dignity, the genial manner, the strong character and the warm, earnest Christian devotion of Brother Davis made him much beloved by all who knew him. With a very warm heart, a deep love for his Saviour, a clear apprehension of the blessed Gospel and a consuming passion for souls, he had also a native and a fairly cultivated talent of expression, which made him always forcible and sometimes eloquent. Everywhere his labors were fruitful in winning souls and edifying the body of Christ. He had his share of the trials and sorrows of life and of the pastorate, but he had also the abundant joys of the servants of Christ. One joy filled his heart and was the unbounded satisfaction of his age. He was permitted to welcome into the blessed work of the ministry two sons, the Rev. William E. and Joseph P. Davis (one of these went home before him), a son-in-law, the Rev. Henry Ward, and a grandson, the Rev. William Davis Ward, and a grandson, the Rev. William Davis Ward. See "Mints. Gen. Syn.," 1896, 216.

Manual of the Reformed Church in American p. 404  
Corwin  
1628-1902

Rev. William Page Davis died in Schenectady, January 7, 1894. He was born at Ware, Mass., September 6, 1806, and died in his 88th year. He was graduated at Union College in 1833, and pursued his theological studies, in part, in Union Seminary and in part under the tuition of Rev. Dr. Beman, of Troy. Limited means in early life made his efforts to obtain an education a great struggle, and trained him to a courage which was characteristic of him through his entire ministry. His first charge was at Hamilton Union and Bethlehem in the Presbytery of Albany. After a successful work of over nine years with these churches, he entered our Reformed Church ministry in 1843, and held pastorates for six years at Princetown, eighteen years at Helderberg, four years at Cöeymans and New Baltimore, and four years at Rotterdam. Then, after resting a year and a half, he at last closed his formal ministry with seven years at Lawyerville, ending in 1884.

The natural dignity, the genial manner, the strong character, and the warm, earnest Christian devotion of Brother Davis made him much beloved by all who knew him. Dr. De Baun says of him: "With a very warm heart, a deep love for his Saviour, a clear apprehension of the blessed Gospel, and a consuming passion for souls, he had also a native and a fairly cultivated talent of expression, which made him always forcible and sometimes eloquent. Everywhere his labors were fruitful in winning souls and edifying the body of Christ. He had his share of the trials and sorrows of life and of the pastorate, but he had also the abundant joys of the servants of Christ. One joy filled his heart and was the unbounded satisfaction of his age. He was permitted to welcome into the blessed work of the ministry two sons, the Revs. William E. and Joseph P. Davis (one of these went home before him), a son-in-law, the Rev. Henry Ward, and a grandson, the Rev. William Davis Ward, while there is yet one other well on the way to the same sacred office. So emphatically was he a father in Israel, a father in our Reformed Church, in whose abundantly fruitful life we may well rejoice and thank God and take courage. He rests from his labors and his works do follow him." To these words from another the Committee add only this, that this aged brother left six living children, one son and five daughters, and that the ministers just named as his descendants, are all settled and doing active service in our own Denomination.

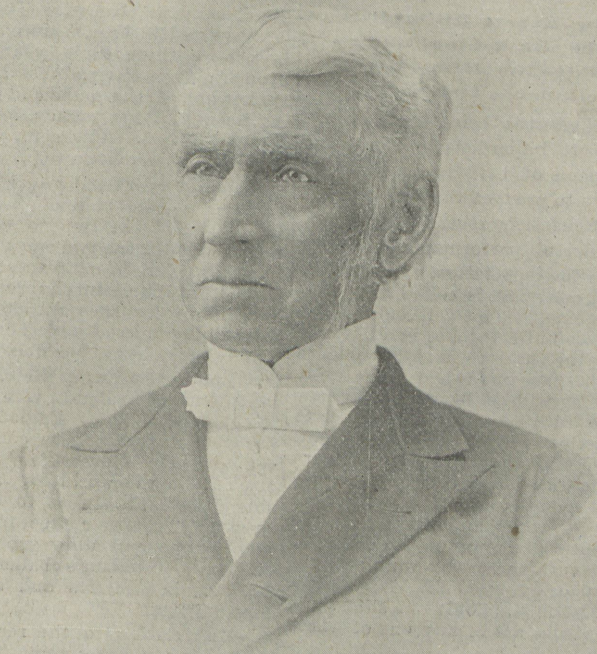
*From: Minutes of the Gen. Synod 1895.*

WM. P. DAVIS, '33,

was born at Ware, Mass., Sept. 6th, 1806. He was an Adelpic. He studied theology at Union Theological Seminary and was settled over Presbyterian churches in Albany Co., N. Y., in 1832-41, as an Evangelist; served the Reformed Dutch Church of Princetown, N. Y., 1841-47; Helderberg and Guilderland, 1847 to 1851; Coeymans and New Baltimore, N. Y., 1851 to 1855; spent a year in Burlington, Wis., whence he returned to the Reformed Church of Helderberg, N. Y., remaining there thirteen years; then for four years pastor of the Reformed Church, Lawyersville, N. Y.; since then residing in Schenectady but often supplying pulpits in the neighboring country. He published several sermons and one book called "The Pastor's Farewell." He was a Republican. He died at Schenectady, Jan. 7th, 1894, of heart-disease leaving five daughters and one son.

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Union College - Class 18 - 1894

REV. WILLIAM P. DAVIS, of Schenectady.

WHO FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY WAS A MINISTER OF THE REFORMED CHURCH.

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ardent, his religious affection warm. A great lover of poetry, his mind was a treasury of sacred verse, a great joy to him in his blindness. He was the composer of at least one hymn of merit, "Child of Sin and Sorrow Filled with Dismay," was set to the music of one of Dr. Hastings' tunes, and found a place in a Church hymnal.

*The Rev. William Paige Davis*, went to his rest with the setting of the sun on the Sabbath, January 7th, 1894, in the eighty-eighth year of his age.

Mr. Davis was born in Ware, Mass., and educated at Union College, graduating in 1833. His first ministerial charge was at Hamilton, Union and Bethlehem, in the Presbytery of Albany, where, in the zeal of his heart, he had engaged in the evangelistic work while still a student, with such success, that the people insisted upon his settlement with them as their pastor. After a prosperous ministry there of nine years he accepted a call from the Reformed Church of Princetown, and so began his work in the denomination, continued in the same region, which absorbed all there was in him and of him for more than half a century. And there was a good deal in him and a good deal of him. With a very warm heart, a deep love for his Saviour, a clear apprehension of the blessed Gospel, and a consuming passion for souls, he had also a native and a fairly cultivated talent of expression which made him always forcible and sometimes eloquent. Generally in robust health, he made full proof of his ministry from day to day and from house to house.

In two separate pastorates over the large and important Church of Helderberg—only a few miles away from his first charge—and three other pastorates not far to the South and the North, he covered the whole vicinity with his labors, and through the valley of the Norman's Kill and along the foot of the Helderbergs there was no face more familiar than his, and no

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influence for good, stronger. When, by reason of old age, he ceased from the pastorate, he by no means ceased from his ministry, but gave good and very acceptable help to his younger brethren and to vacant Churches almost up to the last. Everywhere his labors were fruitful in winning souls and edifying the body of Christ; and only the Master can tell, though one may estimate with holy envy, how many of the Lord's redeemed shall rise up at last to call him blessed.

He was a positive man, as what man is not who ever really does anything? He had clear-cut opinions and plans and methods of his own, for which he stood with all the force of manhood. He was not always wise—there has been but one Man who was; but (a not very common thing for a positive man) he was open to conviction, and when convinced that he was wrong, he surrendered frankly, and with utmost cheerfulness joined hands for work on another line, for the one essential thing with him was that the work must go on. Withal, his patience, his faith, his fidelity, and his buoyant cheerfulness and hopefulness made him a most acceptable co-worker, as his brethren in the ministry most gratefully testify.

He had his share of the trials and sorrows of life and of the pastorate, but he had also the abundant joys of the servants of Christ. One joy in fourfold measure brightened his days and filled his heart and was the unbounded satisfaction of his age—he was permitted to welcome into the blessed work of the ministry two sons, the Revs. Wm. E. and Joseph P. Davis, (one of these, his Benjamin, went quickly home before him,) a son-in-law, the Rev. Henry Ward, and now in the last year of his life a grandson, the Rev. Wm. Davis Ward, while there is at least one other well on the way to the same sacred office. So emphatically was he a father in Israel, a father in our beloved Reformed Church, in whose abundantly fruitful life and peaceful and fitting end we may well rejoice, and thank God

*Class of 1871.*  
**WILLIAM EMERSON DAVIS,**

Knox, N. Y.

1833

Born at Princetown, N. Y., February 18, 1845. Son of Rev. William P. Davis (1806-94). A.B. (Rutgers, 1868). Licensed by Classis of Schenectady, 1871. Ordained by North Classis of Long Island, 1871. North Hempstead, Manhasset, L. I., 1871-79. Branchville, South Branch, N. J., 1879-83. Lebanon, 1883-1905. Marlboro, 1905-11. Knox and 2d Berne, 1911-  
*From New Brunswick Sem. 1784-1911.*

Davis, Wm. Page, b. at Ware, Mass., Sept. 6, 1806; U.C. 33; studied theology one year with President Nott; two years with Dr. Beman, of Troy, N. Y. (supplying Hamilton, Union and Bethlehem (Presbyt.), 1834-43), Princetown, N. Y., 43-8, Helderberg, 48-52, Coeymans and New Baltimore, 52-6 (S.S., Rochester and Vienna, Wis., Presbyt. six months in 1856), Helderberg, 56-70, Rotterdam, 2d, 71-5, Lawyersville, 77-84; died Jan. 7, 1894.  
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#### REV. WILLIAM P. DAVIS.

The death at Schenectady, Monday, of Rev. William P. Davis, removed one of the oldest and best-known Reformed clergymen in eastern New York. Mr. Davis had been in the ministry over half a century, all of which time was spent in the vicinity of Albany. Born in Ware, Mass., in 1806, he was educated at Amherst Academy and Union College and took a course at the Union Theological College at New York. Upon being ordained he was sent to Hamilton Union Church in Guilderland, Albany county, and thereafter served at Princeton, Schenectady county, at Coeymans, at Rotterdam and at Lawyersville, Schoharie county. He was an eloquent orator and an effective church worker. He is survived by one son and five daughters: Rev. William E. Davis, of Lebanon, N. J.; Mrs. John C. Grant, of Albany; Mrs. Henry Ward, of Closter, N. J.; Mrs. C. E. Odell, of Poughkeepsie; and Misses Sue J. and Mary S. Davis, of Schenectady. Director General Davis, of the World's Fair, and ex-Gov. Bullock, of Georgia, are nephews of deceased. *Globe 1.13.1874*

*William P. Davis - Dec 9 1833*

16/1942

bocker News, Albany, N. Y. Wednesday, September

## Guilderland Church to Observe 175th Anniversary Sunday

Helderberg Reformed Church, Guilderland Center, will celebrate its 175th anniversary with two services Sunday. Dr. Jasper S. Hogan of New Brunswick, N. J., will preach at 11 a. m. A series of addresses are scheduled at 2:30 p. m. after luncheon.

The combined choirs of Helderberg Reformed Church and Altamont Reformed Church, the daughter church, will furnish music for the morning service with Mrs. James E. Van Vesse directing and Raleigh V. Moffett at the organ. The Rev. James E. Van Vesse, pastor, will give the address of welcome.

Dr. Hogan will lead devotions at the afternoon session. The Rev. Bert Pennings will speak for the Classis of Schenectady. The Rev. H. Curtis Ficken will bring greetings from Altamont Reformed Church and the Rev. Wilson D. Worman from St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The Rev. Orville Hogan and the Rev. M. Paul Luther will speak for Sons of the Church. Three living former pastors, the Rev. Martin Luther, the Rev. George Seibert and the Rev. Albertus Bossenbroek, also will speak.

#### First Recorded History

First recorded history of the church is given in the manual of the late Dr. E. T. Corwin. This shows the church was organized in 1767, although it is believed a meeting house existed before this built.

One of the oldest of the alumni of Union has passed away in the person of Rev. William P. Davis, who died at his residence, 722 Union Street, at five o'clock Sunday afternoon, January 7.

Rev. Mr. Davis was born in Ware, Massachusetts, September 6, 1806, and was therefore in his 88th. year. He was graduated from Union in 1833, and shortly afterward entered the ministry of the Reformed Church in which he was actively engaged for over fifty years. During this time he served charges as follows: Bethlehem, Princetown, Guilderland, Rotterdam, Coeymans, and Lawyersville, Schoharie county. At the age of 80, Mr. Davis with his family, came to this city to reside, and during his last years was very active, often supplying pulpits in the city and vicinity.....

The wife of the Rev. Mr. Davis, Elizabeth Bullock, died two years ago. He is survived by one son and five daughters, Rev. William E. Davis, pastor of the Reformed church, of Lebanon, N.J., Mrs. Grant of Albany, Mrs. Ward of Closter, N.J.; Mrs. Odell of Poughkeepsie, and Misses Susan and Mary Davis, of this city.....

C. Jan. 1894



An Aged Minister Dead.

Schenectady: The Rev. William P. Davis died yesterday at his residence in this city in the 88th year of his age. He is survived by two sisters and a brother, five daughters and a son. His wife died two years ago. The son is the Rev. William E. Davis of Lebanon, N. J. Director-General Davis of the World's Fair was a nephew, as was also ex-Governor Bullock of Georgia. Mr. Davis was born September 6, 1806, graduated from Union college in 1823, and at once entered the ministry, having in charge for over fifty years, at different periods, the following churches: The Presbyterian at Guilderland and the Presbyterian at Bethlehem, Albany county; the Reformed at Princetown, Schenectady county; the Reformed at Guilderland, the Presbyterian at Coeymans and the Presbyterian at New Baltimore, Albany county; the Second Reformed at Rotterdam, and the Reformed at Lawyersville, Mohawk county. He has lived in this city for the last seven years without a vacation, but filling many pulpits by request within a few months past.

Jan. 8, 1894

William Paige Davis A.B. 1833

1833  
H. B.  
William Paige Davis