Sketch of his life in

"Memoirs of an old disciple"
By Francis M. Kip
Pub. 1848

Copy in College Library.
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Married: Ann, daughter of Isaac Lewis and Sarah (Smith) Kip. She was born March 6, 1779; married Nov. 4, 1818. He was the son of Christian Miller, of Albany. She died Dec. 29, 1888. He died in 1847. — The Kip Family in America p. 355
Frederic Ellsworth Kip. 1928
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The Kip Family in America
p. 355
Frederic Ellsworth Kip
1928.

Brother of William C. Miller, Class of 1618.
John Ernest Miller, the son of Christian Miller and Mary Van Schaick, was born in the city of Albany, on the 14th of April, 1792. After receiving the usual preparatory education in his native city, in 1806, he entered the Freshman Class at Union College, Schenectady, from which Institution he graduated in 1812.

Mr. Miller's father was a merchant in Albany, engaged in an extensive and lucrative business.

In 1812, Mr. Miller entered the Theological Seminary of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, then located in the City of New York, under the superintendence of the late Rev. Dr. John M. Mason. After spending the full term of four years in that institution, he was, in 1816, licensed by the Presbytery of Columbia to preach the everlasting Gospel. His first sermon was preached in the church of his honoured instructor, from the text, "Unto you which believe he is precious;" thus commencing his public ministry as he ever prosecuted it, with a prominent exhibition of Christ in his loveliness and excellence, as the chiefest among ten thousand to the Christian, and needed by the sinner for his justification and holiness.

After spending a short time in preaching for various clerical friends, and in the enjoyment of his parent's society, Mr. Miller received a commission from the Board of Missions of the Northern Missionary Society of the State of New York, to visit the Southern States, preaching the Gospel as opportunities were afforded him. In this tour he occupied six months and a half. The journey, from the time he left New York till his return to that city, was performed entirely on horseback. Its effects on his health were exceedingly beneficial, tending, at that period of life, to strengthen his physical powers, and thus qualify him for those peculiarly arduous labours in the service of his Master, to which, in after life, he was to be called.

In the prosecution of the duties devolved upon him by this commission, he passed through parts of the States of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and on his return homeward, through parts of Kentucky and Ohio, preaching continually, not only on the Sabbath, but on the week days, as opportunities were afforded him; the unsearchable riches of the grace of Christ.
John Ernest Miller 2

After his return, Mr. Miller laboured for four months under the direction of the Young Men's Missionary Society, as their Missionary in the North-eastern part of the city of New York. p. 245

In 1816, Mr. Miller, having received a call from the Presbyterian church in Chester, Morris County, New Jersey, was ordained to the ministry by the Presbytery of Morris, and entered on the discharge of his ministerial duties in that place. About the same time, he was united in marriage to Miss Ann Kip, the daughter of Isaac L. Kip, Esq., of the city of New York, with whom he lived in the enjoyment of uninterrupted harmony for nearly twenty-nine years, and who now survives to mourn his loss. The ministry of Mr. Miller in this place was of short duration, nor has the writer of this memoir any particular sources of information as to its results; though it is known, that it was by no means in vain. p. 249

And when a call from the R. D. Church at Tompkinsville, S. I. was presented to him, he deemed it his duty to accept it, and removed to that place in the autumn of 1823. There, happy in his work, successful in his efforts to win souls for God, and most ardently beloved by the people of his charge, he continued in the active discharge of the duties of the ministry until he was called to ascend to the higher, purer services of the upper Sanctuary.

.....As a preacher, Mr. Miller was faithful, affectionate, and plain. He had no desire to be esteemed a great man, or to be admired for the beauty of his composition, or elegance of his style. A man of finished education, of good native powers of mind, of sound judgment, and excellent sense, with a heart filled with zeal for God's glory, and overflowing with love for those to whom he ministered, and with ardent desires for their salvation, his sermons could not but be well prepared.

p. 250

Mr. Miller was highly esteemed as a preacher, not only by his own people, but by those congregations to which he occasionally ministered the word of God. As a speaker, his manners were attractive, his gestures were easy and natural, his voice full and sweet. As a pastor, Mr. Miller had few equals.

p. 252

Very soon after his settlement at Tompkinsville, Mr. Miller was appointed by the proper state officer, Chaplain to the Marine Hospital, at Staten Island. An institution reared under the authority of the state, for the relief of the sick, arriving from foreign ports, in the harbour of New York, where as is well known, the best of medical attendance is provided, and every possible effort is used to alleviate the woes of the suffering. p. 253
Mr. Miller was the first chaplain of this institution, and retained his chaplaincy until the time of his decease. His official duty consisted in regularly visiting the different wards of the hospital, in order that he might converse and pray with the sick and dying, and learning their various cases, employ such measures for their welfare, as his skill and experience suggested.

On the establishment of the Seamen's Retreat, in 1831, Mr. Miller was appointed chaplain to this institution; and this office he also continued to hold until his decease. The design of this institution may be learned from the following address, delivered at the laying of the corner stone of the building, July 4, 1831. This Address, copied from the Sailor's Magazine, is the only production of Mr. Miller ever committed to the press. Never was there a more correct remark, than was made by the editor of a New York daily paper, who was intimately acquainted with him, in a paragraph announcing his death, "Mr. Miller was one who had no pride to be called great." He was emphatically a modest, unobtrusive man. When several gentlemen requested him, for publication, a copy of the sermon occasioned by the death of the lamented Harrison, he respectfully, but decidedly declined the honour intended him, remarking, that if it pleased his friends, his design was answered.

He died August 23, 1847.

It was clearly ascertained from the Post Mortem examination, that his attacks were caused by the passage of stones through the gall duct into the intestines, one of which, from its size, entirely obstructed the duct.

Footnote, p. 273
His congregation have since erected, in the Church, a beautiful tablet with the following inscription:

REV. JOHN E. MILLER,
Born April 14th, 1792,
Died August 23d, 1847.
Installed Pastor of this Church, October 19th, 1823.
Was afterwards appointed Chaplain,
both to the Marine Hospital and Seamen's Retreat,
and continued to discharge the important duties of these several stations with distinguished fidelity, and universal acceptance,
till he rested from his labours, and entered into the joy of his Lord.

"Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile." John 1 47
"The law of truth was in his mouth and iniquity was not found in his lips." Mal. 1 6.

This tablet is erected as a testimony of the high regard which is cherished for him by his church and by the public, as a Man, a Christian, and a Minister of the Gospel.

Memoirs of an Old Disciple and His Descendants
Francis M. Kip
Robert Carter New York 1848
Miller, John E., b. in Albany, 1792; U.C. 1812, l. 17; (Miss. in the South and West, 17-18, Chester, N.J., 18-23.) Templekinsville, 1833-47, d. Also Chaplain in Marine Hospital, and at Seaman's Retreat.

In his chaplaincy he was undaunted by all the forms of disease with which the hospital was acquainted. Whatever might be the danger to himself—and it was often appalling—or from whatever land the suffering patient might have come he was always by his side when necessity required. He preached the gospel with a simplicity that every one could understand, and with an earnestness which every one felt. Did collision or irritation arise among brethren, he poured a healing oil on the chafed spirit, soothing it to peace and kindness. Was bold and unblushing iniquity to be rebuked, he threw the fear of man behind him, and looked only at fidelity to God and duty. He walked with calm spirit and unwavering step through rooms charged with poisonous contagion and fetid disease, bearing the message of salvation to the guilty and lost. He was an Israelite indeed, in whom was no guile. His bosom was transparent as the purest fountain—an utter stranger to deceit. He said only what he thought, and what he said he did. The transient character of the community prevented him, in general, from seeing the fruits of his labors. This was a trial to him. But a short time before his death the Master gladdened him with a precious revival, especially among the young.

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Manual, 1902.

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