George Washington Eaton, third president of Colgate university (1856-68) was born at Huntington, Pa., July 3, 1804. The family removed to Ohio in 1805. He was graduated at Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., in 1829, and was elected fellow and tutor. In 1830 he became principal of Union academy, Belleville N. Y., and from 1831 to 1833 was a professor of ancient languages in Georgetown college, Kentucky. In 1833 he became professor of mathematics and natural philosophy in Hamilton literary and theological institution, and in 1837 was made professor of ecclesiastical history in the theological department. He retained this chair until 1850, when he became professor of systematic theology, which position he retained until 1861. In 1856 he was elected president of Madison university, and also filled the chair of intellectual and moral philosophy from 1856 to 1868. Subsequent to 1861 he was president of Hamilton theological seminary, and professor of homiletics until 1871. Dr. Eaton was ordained to the Baptist ministry when he was quite young, and was a striking and eloquent preacher. He received the honorary degree of D.D. and LL.D. He was a man of commanding personal appearance, and of many popular qualities; his attainments were wide, and his devotion to the university was absorbing. In his relations to the students he was marked by great kindness of spirit, and his largeness of heart was a source of strength to him and to the institution. He had wide influence among the alumni, and his memory is cherished, with peculiar affection. He died at Hamilton, N. Y., Aug. 3, 1872.


GEORGE EATON, 1829, of Delaware, O., was a member of the Delphian Institute Society. (Died: 1872)

Delphian Catalogue 1830

CLASS OF 1829

GEORGE W. EATON

George W. Eaton was elected professor of Mathematics & Nat. Phil. subsequently translated to the Department of History.

Prof. Pearson's Scrap Book p. 339
CLASS OF 1829

GEORGE W. EATON.

Born July 3, 1804, near Huntington, Pa.
Family removed to Ohio in 1805.
In 1822 he entered Ohio University at Athens, and
remained two years. From 1824 to 1827 engaged in teaching
in Prince Edward Col. Va. In 1827 entered Union College,
Schenectady, N. Y. Graduated in 1829, elected Fellow
and appointed Tutor. In 1830 Principal of Union Academy,
Belleville, N. Y. From 1831 to 1833 Professor of Ancient
Languages in Georgetown College, Ky., during the last
six months its acting President. From 1833 to 1837,
Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy in
Hamilton Literary and Theological Institution. From 1837
to 1861, Professor of Systematic Theology. President of
Madison University, and Professor of Intellectual and Moral
Philosophy from 1856 to 1868. President of Hamilton Theological
Seminary, and Professor of Homiletics from 1861 to 1871.

Jubilee Volume p. 190
Madison University 1872.

*George Washington Eaton.

Born July 3, 1804, at Henderson, Huntingdon Co., Pa.; Died Aug. 3, 1872,
at Hamilton, N.Y.
Entered from Berlin, Delaware Co., Ohio, .... A. B. 1829; D. D. 1844;
LL.D. Union Univ. (Tenn.) 1867; Phi B. K.
President of numerous Sigma Phi Conventions; Orator, Summer
Convention, Beta of New York, 1843; Chaplain Summer Convention, Beta of
New York, 1847.
Clergyman (Baptist) and Teacher. Ordained Evangelist at Hamilton, N.Y.,
Oct. 22, 1834; Tutor Union, 1829-30; Principal Union Lit. Soc., Belleville,
N. Y., 1830-31; Professor of Ancient Languages, Georgetown Coll. (Ky.), 1831-33; and acting President, 1833; Prof. of Natural Philosophy and

Mathematics, Hamilton Lit. and Theol. Inst. (later styled Madison Univ.,
and Colgate Univ. at date), 1834-37; Prof. Civil and Ecclesiastical History,
1837-50; from the incorporation of Madison Univ. (1850), Prof. Intellectual and
Moral Philosophy, and its President till 1861, and Prof. Systematic Theol. in
Hamilton Theol. Sem.; President Hamilton Theol. Sem., 1861-71, and Prof.
Homiletics.
Frequently President of State and National Organizations of the
Baptist Church.
Author. "Claims of Civil and Ecclesiastical History," etc. (Utica, 1841);
"The True Aim of Life" [An Address delivered July 24, 1849, before the
Literary Societies at Union] (Schenectady, 1850); "What is Preaching?"
[An Ordination Sermon at Norwalk, Conn., 1853] (New York, 1860); "The
Malady and the Remedy" (ib. 1869); and of many other published add-
resses, orations, and sermons, and of numerous contributions to religious
periodicals.
[Portrait and extended Biography, Baptist Cyclopaedia.]
MARRIED: In Schenectady, on the 12th ult. by the Rev. Dr. Nott, Rev. George W. Eaton, principal of the Union Academy, Belleville, to Miss Eliza H., daughter of Capt. George Boardman, of the former place.

Albany Argus
Oct. 4, 1830.


The Scroll
May 1850
Prof. Pearson's Scrap Book  p. 243
became the partner of Judge William Kent. He was for several years chairman of the committee on political reform in the Union League club. Mr. Eaton travelled in Europe in 1866 and in 1870-71, giving particular attention to the status and probable development of the civil service of various countries. After his return President Grant appointed him a member of the civil service commission, and he presided for a number of years. His position as chairman of the commission expired during the failure of the Civil War to make an appropriation for its support. He visited Europe in 1875; and in 1877, at President Hayes's request, went to England to secure material for a historical report upon the British civil service. He was the first of the commissioners appointed by President Arthur under the act of 1883 re-establishing the civil service commission. He was reappointed as chairman by President Cleveland, 5 Nov. 1885, and resigned in April, 1886. Mr. Eaton has been prominent in the civil service reform movement in the United States. The first society for promoting the formation of this society was formed at his residence in 1873, and he has contributed largely on this subject to periodical literature. Mr. Eaton delivered the annual address before the Yale law school in 1885. He drafted the law for creating a metropolitan board of health in 1866; that establishing the police court among the New York police courts; and also the national civil service act of 1883. Mr. Eaton has the degree of LL.D. from the University of Edinburgh, and he has published "The Independent Movement in New York" (New York, 1880); "Civil Service in Great Britain" (1880); and edited Kent's "Commentaries," with Judge William Kent's comments, and "Chishman on Contracts Payable in Specific Articles" (1889).

EATON, Edward Dwight, educator, b. in Lancaster, Wis., 12 Jan., 1851. He was graduated at Beloit College, Wis., in 1875; at Yale in 1877; and at the University of Leipzig and Heidelberg, Germany, in 1875-7. He was pastor of Andover Congregational churches in Newton, Iowa, in 1877-80, and in Oak Park, I11., in 1880-86, and on 29 Jan. of the latter year was elected president of Beloit College.

EATON, George Washington, clergyman, b. in Henderson, Huntingdon co., Pa., 3 July, 1804; d. in Hamilton, Madison co., N. Y., 3 Aug., 1874. He was graduated from Union college in 1826, and from 1831 till 1838 was professor of mathematics and natural philosophy in Hamilton literary and theological institution, Hamilton, N. Y., and in 1837-39 filled the chair of ecclesiastical and civil history there. After the incorporation of the institution as Madison University Dr. Eaton was its president from 1839 till 1864, and at the same time professor of systematic theology. He was also professor for some years of intellectual and moral philosophy. From 1861 till 1871 he was president of Hamilton theological seminary and professor of homiletics. He received the honorary degrees of D. D. and L. L. D. Dr. Eaton was early ordained to the Baptist ministry, and was a strikingly original and eloquent preacher. His brother, Joseph Haywood, educator, b. in Berlin, Delaware county, Ohio, 10 Sept., 1815; d. in Murfreesboro, Tenn., 13 Jan., 1859, was graduated at Hamilton literary and theological institution in 1837. He was elected to a professorship in Union university, Murfreesboro, Tenn., in 1841, and in 1847 became its president, continuing in that position till his death. He was ordained as a Baptist minister in 1845, and was a preacher of uncommon ability. He had received the honorary degree of LL.D., Joseph Haywood's son, Thomas Treadwell, clergyman, b. in Murfreesboro, Tenn., 16 Nov., 1845, was graduated at Washington college, Lexington, Va., in 1867, and has served as pastor of Baptist churches in Lebanon and Richmond, Va., and Louisville, Ky. Besides having written several pamphlets, Mr. Eaton is the author of "My Angels" (1874); "Sermons to Children" (1857); "Marriage and Law" (1857).

EATON, Horace, governor, b. in Barnard, Vt., 22 June, 1844; d. in Middlebury, Vt., 4 July, 1895. He was graduated at Middlebury College in 1868. In that year he began to practise in Enosburg, and remained there until 1876, when he was appointed professor of chemistry and natural history in Middlebury, and held the chair till 1884. He was a member of the legislature, lieutenant-governor in 1884-86, superintendent of public schools in 1890-94, governor of the state from 1884 to 1888, and a member of the State constitutional convention of 1886.

EATON, Isaac, educator, b. in Montgomery, Pa., in 1799; d. 4 July, 1792. He was for twenty-six years pastor of the Baptist church in Hopewell, N. J., and was the first teacher among American Baptists to open a school for the education of young men for the ministry. The house in which Mr. Eaton taught still stands in the village of Hopewell. Among his pupils were many who subsequently became eminent as ministers, physicians, and lawyers. One of these was the Rev. James Manning, the first president of Rhode Island college, now Brown university.

EATON, John, educator, b. in Sutton, N. H., 5 Dec., 1809. He was graduated at Dartmouth in 1834, was principal of a school in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1845-6, and superintendent of schools in Indiana in 1856-7. He then resigned, studied for the ministry at the Andover theological seminary, and was ordained by the presbytery of Monmouth, Ohio, on 5 Sept., 1861. Meanwhile, in August, he had been commissioned chaplain of the 27th Ohio volunteers, was made brigade sanitary inspector, and in November, 1862, was appointed by the Secretary of War, superintendent of contrabands. A month later he became general superintendent of freedmen for Mississippi, Arkansas, West Tennessee, and Northern Louisiana, and served as such until 27 May, 1865. He was commissioned colonel of the 66th U.S. colored infantry on 2 Oct., 1863, and received the brevet of brigadier-general of volunteers in March, 1865. Subsequently he was appointed assistant commissioner of the bureau of refugees, freedmen, and abandoned lands, and after thoroughly organizing the bureau resigned to edit the "Memphis Post," where he continued from 1866 till 1870, serving as superintendent of public instruction in 1867-70. He was appointed U. S. commissioner of education in March, 1870, and remained in that capacity until August, 1886, when he resigned to accept the presidency of Marietta college. The bureau of education at the time of his appointment had but two clerks, not over a hundred volumes belonging to it, and no museum of educational illustrations and appliances; but when he resigned there were 38 assistants, a library including 18,000 volumes and 47,000 pamphlets. Gen. Eaton represented the department of the interior at the Centennial exhibition held in Philadelphia in 1874, was chief of the department of education for the New Orleans exposition and organized that vast exhibition, was president of the International congress of education held
George Washington Eaton.


Entered from Berlin, Delaware Co., Ohio. . . . . . . A. B. 1829; D. D. 1844; LL. D. Union Univ. (Tenn.) 1867; ΦBK.

Presiding Officer of numerous Sigma Phi Conventions; Orator, Summer Convention, Beta of New York, 1843; Chaplain Summer Convention, Beta of New York, 1847.

Clergyman (Baptist) and Teacher. Ordained Evangelist at Hamilton, N. Y., Oct. 22, 1834. . . . Tutor Union, 1829-30; Principal Union Lit. Soc., Belleville, N. Y., 1830-31; Professor of Ancient Languages, Georgetown Coll. (Ky.), 1831-33; and acting President, 1833; Prof. of Natural Philosophy and Mathematics, Hamilton Lit. and Theol. Inst. (later styled Madison Univ., and Colgate Univ. at date), 1834-37; Prof. Civil and Ecclesiastical History, 1837-50; from the incorporation of Madison Univ. (1850), Prof. Intellectual and Moral Philosophy, and its President till 1861, and Prof. Systematic Theol. in Hamilton Theol. Sem.; President Hamilton Theol. Sem., 1861-71, and Prof. Homiletics.

Frequently Presiding Officer of State and National Organizations of the Baptist Church.

Author. "Claims of Civil and Ecclesiastical History," etc. (Utica, 1841); "The True Aim of Life" [An Address delivered July 24, 1849, before the Literary Societies at Union] (Schenectady, 1850); "What is Preaching?" [An Ordination Sermon at Norwalk, Conn., 1859] (New York, 1860); "The Malady and the Remedy" (ib. 1869); and of many other published addresses, orations, and sermons, and of numerous contributions to religious periodicals.

[Portrait and extended Biography in Baptist Cyclopaedia.]