

MESSENGER

Vol. 5 No. 4 March, 1898

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The S. Stephen's College Messenger.

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VOL. V.

ANNANDALE, N. Y., MARCH, 1899.

NO. 4.

Editorial.

It appears to us, the Editorial Board of the S. Stephen's College MESSENGER, as though we cannot pass over in silence the deaths of two such noble men and Christians as the Rev. Robert B. Fairbairn, the Warden, and Mr. John Bard, the founder of this institution. Few who have been acquainted with Dr. Fairbairn can feel his loss more than we, here at S. Stephen's, who have known him and studied under him during the last years of his life work.

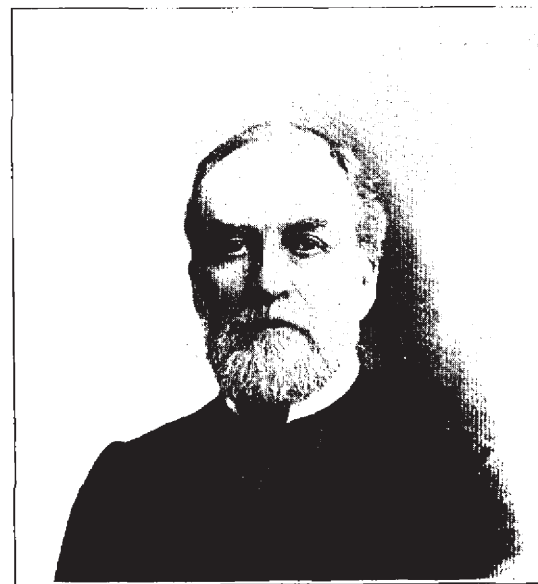
Year after year, as the bitter-sweet time of commencement came around, the "Warden's boys" would flock back to the old campus we all love so well. Then surely Dr. Fairbairn's cup of pride was filled and the genial old man would be surrounded by those whom he had fitted for their work in life. Are not they alone a mighty monument to the memory of Dr. Fairbairn? As the afternoon hurries on all assemble in Preston Hall; at the head of the long table is Dr. Fairbairn, the courteous toast-master, with a kind word and glad welcome for all. There are always many in the dining hall on commencement day, some men who have not been to S. Stephen's for many years, yet the Warden would call by name for now one, now another of the men he knew so well. For Dr. Fairbairn never forgot a friend.

This year we shall look in longing at the place where he has always stood; yet his monument is about us now and we can never forget his work.

So it seems as though the present edition is only a very small tribute of love and respect for his memory. When the tidings of his death were spread abroad, there came in from all parts of the country expressions of regret and acknowledgments of the worth of that noble gentlemen and profound scholar. Others have expressed, far better than we could have done, how the world esteemed our dear Warden, and so we have gathered together this tribute for those who need no reminder of their loss. As we finish our token of praise we can say that it, too, is full of love.



REV. R. B. FAIRBAIRN, D.D., LL.D.



REV. GEO. B. HOPSON, D.D.



A SERMON

PREACHED IN THE CHAPEL OF ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE, ANNANDALE, N. Y., BY
 THE REV. GEORGE B. HOPSON, D.D., ACTING WARDEN,
 SEPTUAGESIMA, JANUARY 29, 1899

In commemoration of
Rev. Robert B. Fairbairn, D.D., LL.D.,
 Warden of St. Stephen's College.

For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

—ROMANS XIV. 7.

OUR thoughts, to-day, are fixed often upon him who has just passed to another state of existence, but who for thirty-six years was the central point of this community. As Warden of this College, as Rector of this parish, as the friend of every person in this neighborhood, Dr. Fairbairn occupied a commanding position, and exercised a powerful influence. We looked up to him as our guide and teacher, whose advice we were to follow, and whose example we should imitate. His influence was always exerted for good. As a light shining in a dark place, as a city set on a hill, that cannot be hid, he manifested the graces and virtues of the Christian life. And yet there was no ostentatious display of his goodness. Singularly modest in his disposition, he would be the last to speak of his merits. He seemed to be good, because he was good. Out of the abundance of his heart, his mouth spoke. His deeds of kindness and acts of courtesy were the necessary expression of his inward feeling.

It seems fitting that such a character should be preserved in our memories, and kept ever before us as an object for our imitation. St. Paul says: "Be ye followers of God, as dear children;" but he also says: "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." The Lord Jesus is our perfect model, but His saints, who, in their daily life, reflect some of the brightness of that Sun of Righteousness, may also help to guide us on our road to heaven. Though they have passed beyond the veil, their memories should not perish. The influence of their good deeds should not cease with their earthly existence. We should treasure such lives as a precious heritage. We should talk of them to our children, and our children's children. We should hand them down through the ages to come, that they may be an incentive to generations yet unborn. When they see what human nature can, by the grace of God, effect, they also will be led to conquer besetting sins, and to rise to a like degree of holiness.

Robert Brinckerhoff Fairbairn was born in the city of New York, May 27,

1818. He had attained the ripe age of eighty years and eight months, when he was called from the toils and sorrows of earth to the rest and reward of Paradise. His education was conducted at Bristol and Trinity Colleges (from which latter institution he was graduated in 1840), and at the General Theological Seminary. He was admitted to the diaconate in 1843, and advanced to the priesthood in 1844 by Bishop Onderdonk, of New York. He was Rector of Christ Church, Troy, from 1843 to 1848; of St. John's Church, Stillwater, from 1849 to 1852; of St. Andrew's, Providence, R. I., from 1852 to 1853; and of Calvary Church, Cairo, from 1853 to 1862. While Rector of the latter church, he resided in Catskill, and was Principal of the Catskill Academy. In 1862, he was invited by our Trustees to take the chair of Mathematics, which had just been rendered vacant by the resignation of Professor Babcock. He accepted the appointment, and discharged his duties so satisfactorily that when, in 1863, Dr. Richey resigned the Wardenship, Mr. Fairbairn was chosen as his successor. This office he held, as you know, for thirty-five years, giving to the College the best powers of his mind and body, his rich stores of learning, his love, his zeal, his care, his life.

He was a man of remarkable industry. I was informed of my election to the chair of Latin, after the beginning of the College year, in the Fall of 1863. The Tutor, who had been appointed, was out at sea, and unable to return for a few weeks. But the Warden, though alone, never thought of putting off the opening of the College. Single-handed, he undertook the work, and taught all the classes in all the departments, until assistance arrived. It was characteristic of the man. He was ever ready to do his share, and more than his share, of teaching and preaching, and never complained of being overworked. His aim was the success of the College, and the thorough education of young men for the ministry, and to accomplish that, he spared not himself. It is said that the busiest men are the very ones who can always find time for one thing more, and to whom others are wont to go for counsel and assistance. The Warden always had time to visit with a friend, to give advice to a student or parishioner, or to attend to any unexpected duty that might be laid upon him. He also found time to do a vast amount of reading. He bought new publications, and made it a rule to read, each day, at least a hundred pages. In this way he kept abreast of the times, and accumulated vast stores of information, which, with his powerful intellect, he assimilated, and utilized in his daily work.

The trials of life are various, and come in many forms to all of us; but the Warden of a College, especially during the struggling years of its early history, has his own peculiar cares and anxieties, beyond what fall to the lot of others. He, however, was always cheerful, hopeful, patient, uncomplaining. He made the best of everything. He did what he could with small resources. He looked on the bright side. He gained friends for the College, and gradually

accumulated buildings, endowments, apparatus, and books, which, though still unequal to its needs, are vastly superior to what they were in 1863. There were many dark days, many critical periods, when a weaker man would have given up the task; but he was steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, believing that the Lord had given him this work to do, and that he would be false to his trust if he abandoned it.

He had the courage of his convictions. He had clear ideas of what he wished to accomplish, and the courage to maintain them. While courteous to those who differed from him in opinion, he held tenaciously to his own views, and often, by the clearness and force of his arguments, convinced his opponents. There was nothing hazy in his sentiments. He had a logical and mathematical mind, and, by the processes of reason, arrived at definite conclusions.

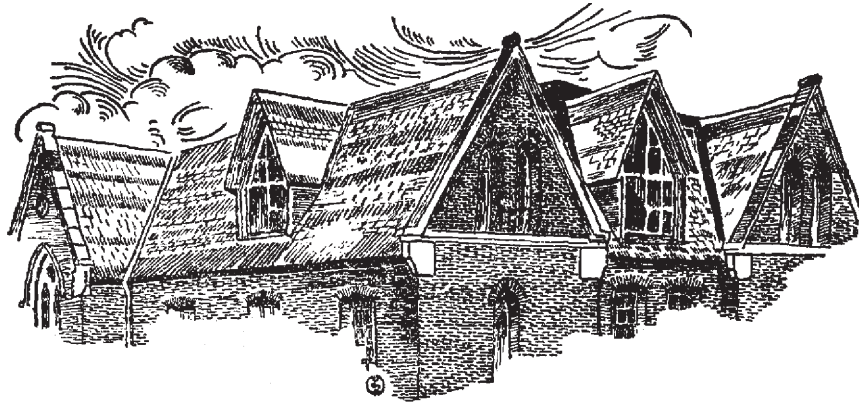
In his theological views and religious practices, he occupied the middle ground, yielding to neither extreme. He was neither High, nor Low, nor Broad, nor Narrow, but a sound, conservative, Prayer-book Churchman. He permitted certain practices, of which he did not altogether approve, because others desired them, and the Church was comprehensive enough to contain Christians of varying beliefs. He was a well-read theologian, and had a reason for the faith that was in him.

He was a courteous gentleman. He showed it in word and deed, in private and public life, with strangers and with friends. It was not a veneer put on for effect, but it was the prevailing habit of his life. Even in extreme age, when bodily infirmities rendered it difficult, he rose from his chair to greet a friend or to bid him farewell. A favorite maxim, which he often quoted to the students, was that of William of Wykeham, "Manners makyth man." He tried to impress upon them that courtesy, refinement, kind attentions, a delicate regard for the feelings and wishes of others were important factors in their future work. These, combined with earnest devotion and religious principle, would win success, where intellectual power alone would fail.

Dr. Fairbairn was a natural educator. He possessed not only a well-trained mind and vast stores of learning, but also the ability to impart his knowledge to others. He presented truth in such a form that it left an impress. He interested and attracted by the force of his arguments, and the clearness of his illustrations. One of his former students once said to me, "The Warden was the first man who taught me to think for myself." His pupils learned to argue logically, to draw conclusions, to see the connection between cause and effect.

But while training their intellects, he did not neglect their morals. Christian education demands spiritual as well as mental culture. The formation of character during the period of College life is vastly more important than mere literary acquirements. He studied the lives of those who had been committed to his care. He watched over them with a father's solicitude. He noted their

strength and their weakness. He gave to one a word of encouragement; to another, reproof; to another, advice; to another, warning. His sermons in the College Chapel were not vague, general, pointless. They were aimed at something. They were directed to particular sins, which he wished to remove, or addressed to some who were weak in the faith, and whom he wished to strengthen. But better than all else in this moulding of character was the example of his own life. No one could long associate with him, without seeing that he was strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might; that he believed as seeing Him who is invisible; that the existence of the Divine Being and the life beyond the grave were as real to him as any object of sense. How could one, who, for four years or more, was daily brought under such influence, fail to profit by it? Would it not put to shame all meanness and selfishness, strengthen his feeble efforts, and make him aspire to higher degrees of holiness? These young minds, that were brought under his moulding hand, during this plastic period of their lives, are now scattered all over the United States, and even in foreign lands, preaching the gospel of the grace of God. They are proclaiming to others truths learned from him. They are displaying to others characters formed by him. They are handing down through the ages the lessons which he inculcated. Go where you will, in any large gathering of the clergy of the Church, in Convention, in Convocation, in Archdeaconry meetings, at the laying of a corner-stone, or at the consecration of a Bishop or a Church, you are sure to find some of the Warden's boys. Distance and separation seemed to strengthen their love for him. They revered him as the teacher of their youth. They loved to tell to others the story of his life. Their greatest gratification, when they returned to the annual Commencements, was to find him still here, and to enjoy his cordial greeting and ready sympathy. Can such a man die? Is not his life reproduced, to-day, in the lives of those who profited by his teachings? Will it not be reproduced again and again in the lives of those, who, in turn, are being moulded by their example and instruction? A stone drops into the quiet bosom of a lake, and sinks to the bottom; but the waves which it produces move on in ever widening circles, and find no rest until the shore is reached. A life disappears from our sight, but it still lives in Paradise. Its prayers and alms have gone up for a memorial before God. Its good deeds are numbered in earth and heaven. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."



Historical Sketch.

S. Stephen's College began her career in the year 1860. Four years before, the Rev. John McVickar, D.D., superintendent of the Society for the Promotion of Religion and Learning in the State of New York, in his report to the Convention, said that the small number of candidates for holy orders arose from the want of "a church school leading to the ministry, adequately endowed, Episcopally governed, and annually reporting to the Convention its condition and its progress." At the same time, in his address to the Convention, Bishop Horatio Potter spoke of the urgent want of a Church training school which should, "by faithful intellectual and religious culture, prepare young men for the work of the Holy Ministry." In accordance with these suggestions, the convention appointed a committee, having as its chairman Bishop Potter, to take the subject of a Training School under consideration. A year elapsed however, before this committee accomplished anything. In the meantime at Annandale Mr. John Bard had begun the work which was destined to result in the establishment of S. Stephen's. Having erected a school-house and chapel he placed it in charge of the Rev. Geo. F. Seymour. In a short time some four or five young men who were desirous of fitting themselves for the study of theology put themselves under Mr. Seymour's care, and this was the starting point of the training school at Annandale. In 1858 the Society for the Promotion of Religion and Learning appropriated one thousand dollars to aid in the support of six scholars at Annandale, and the Bishop reported to the convention that "a promising effort to establish a Training School had been recently commenced." In 1859 a number of clergymen and laymen met together to organize and thoroughly establish the school, and a charter was obtained from the legislature, through the Hon. J. V. L. Pruyn, granting full collegiate powers, with all the security and supervision the Church desired, and in 1860 the Trustees organized under their charter, with Mr. Seymour at the head of the institution under the title of Warden.

In July, 1861, the south wing of the college, known as Aspinwall Hall, was erected and furnished with every convenience by Mr. Bard and Mr. John L. Aspinwall. In March of the same year Mr. Seymour resigned the Wardenship of the college. He was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas Richey, M.A., who is at present professor of Ecclesiastical History in the General Theological Seminary.

In the year 1862 an event occurred which was of the utmost importance to the college. The Rev. C. Babcock, Professor of Mathematics, resigned his office and the Rev. Robert Brinckerhoff Fairbairn, M.A., was appointed Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. A year later Dr. Richey resigned the Wardenship and Professor Fairbairn was chosen to take his place. At the same time the Rev. Geo. B. Hopson, M.A., was appointed Professor of the Latin Language. The number of students at the time was eighteen. Thus in the year 1863 we find S. Stephen's entrusted to the care of the man to whom for the next thirty-five years she was to owe her growth and prosperity, nay, perhaps her very existence.

A year after Dr. Fairbairn's election to the Wardenship Miss E. Ludlow and Mrs. Willink offered to erect the beautiful building which is now known as Ludlow and Willink Hall. The corner-stone was laid on the 13th of June, 1866, by the Rev. F. Vinton. Dr. Fairbairn opened the religious services at the college chapel with the following exhortation: "Christian Brethren, It is decent and proper and agreeable to the precepts of Holy Writ, that in all our doings we should beseech Almighty God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, to direct us with His most gracious favor and to further us with His continual help. Especially, therefore, when we are now assembled to commence a house which is to be set apart for furthering the work for which this college is designed—the intellectual and religious training of young men, who purpose, the Lord being their helper to enter the sacred ministry of the Church of God—let us humbly and devoutly supplicate His assistance, protection and blessing, and let us give thanks unto Him that He hath put it into the hearts of His servants to build this house for the promotion of His glory, and for the cultivation of sound learning in the sacred ministry."

During the next eight or ten years countless obstacles and discouragements



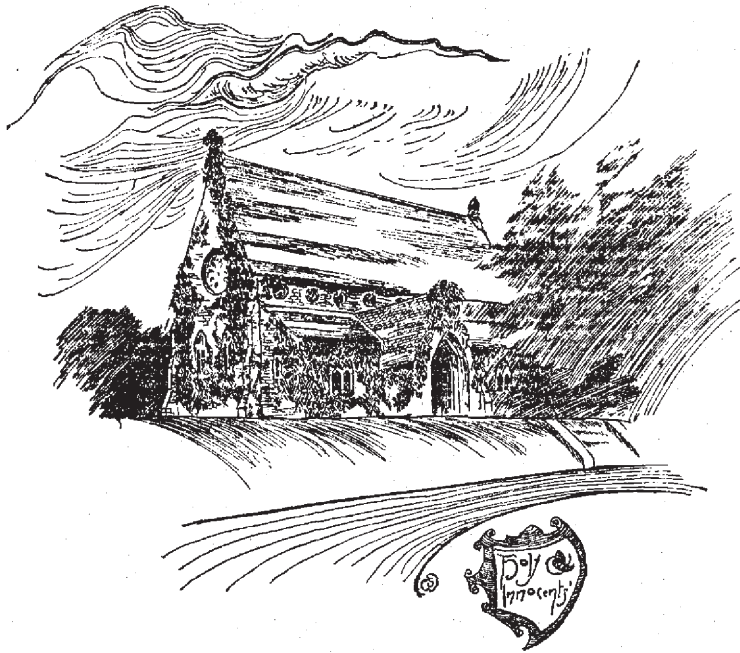
BARD HALL.

presented themselves only to be overcome or put aside by the courage, energy and intellectual power of Dr. Fairbairn. The college continued steadily to advance until, in 1872, we find 72 students enrolled upon her books and a faculty of four professors and three tutors comprised of the following gentlemen: the Rev. Robert B. Fairbairn, D.D., Warden and Professor of Moral Philosophy; the Rev. Geo. B. Hopson, M.A., Professor of the Latin Language and Literature; the Rev. Andrew Oliver, D.D., Professor of Greek Language and Literature; the Rev. William W. Olssen, M.A., Professor of Mathematics

and Natural Philosophy; the Rev. C. A. Foster, B. A., Tutor in English; the Rev. F. T. Russell, M.A., Lecturer on Elocution; James Stryker, B.A., Tutor in Greek.

The following year, 1873, Preston Hall was built with funds given by Miss Preston of Barrytown. At the commencement exercises of that year the Trustees and faculty of the college united in expressing their gratitude and admiration to Dr. Fairbairn for the great work he had done for S. Stephen's. The following extract from the minutes of the Board

of Trustees of the college shows very plainly how Dr. Fairbairn had already shown himself in every way capable of the great work which he had set himself to do. "Dr. Fairbairn being temporarily absent, the Bishop of New York, after complimentary remarks in regard to the services of the Warden, referred to the notice, which it is understood is to be taken of them to-day by the faculty and others, and submitted the draft of a letter which he proposed should be addressed by the Trustees to the Warden, which was unanimously approved, and the letter was therefore signed by the Bishop and all the Trustees present. A copy of the letter, with the signatures attached, was ordered to be entered on the minutes, and the Rt. Rev. the Bishop was requested to present the letter to the Warden." At the commencement dinner the Bishop introduced the Rev. Dr. Oliver, who read the following address:



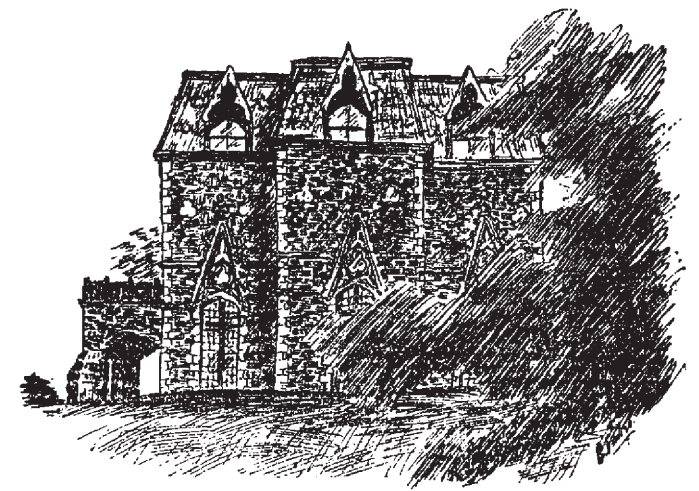
To the Reverend Robert B. Fairbairn, D.D., Warden of S. Stephen's College:

REVEREND SIR: The undersigned, the Faculty of S. Stephen's College, gladly avail themselves of the opportunity which is afforded them by the action of the Trustees, and other friends of the Institution, to tender you their affectionate congratulations.

For ten years you have been connected with S. Stephen's College, as the presiding officer; and without saying anything in disparagement of the labors of your predecessors, it would not be too much to ascribe to your personal efforts whatever measure of prosperity the Institution at present enjoys. Under your forming hand it has grown from an inconsiderable beginning to be one of the recognized centres of Christian education. Others besides ourselves are familiar, in a general way, with the results of your labors, and are ready to bear testimony to the great ability of your administration; but we, who have been associated with you day by day, and have been honored by your confidence, can speak from personal knowledge of the character and value of your work. Through evil report as well as through good report your cheerful confidence in the future has remained unchanged. Under circumstances when you might well have been disheartened, your hopes have never failed you, and your courage has never faltered. You have given us all an example of how much may be accomplished by singleness of purpose and unwearied activity. "*Nullum locum praetermisisti monendi, agendi, providendi.*" In the many and widely different departments of effort and responsibility which are incident to your position, you have always shown yourself to be *facile Princeps*.

You will pardon us, Reverend Sir, if we wound your delicacy by these personal allusions. Our only object is to unite with the Trustees and other friends in the felicitations of this day;

to thank you for your encouragement and sympathy, and your constant solicitude for the honor and happiness of your associates, and to offer to you the tribute of our unfeigned respect. We are quite sure that all the friends of the Church and of Christian education will share the hope with us that your honorable and useful life may be prolonged until you have crowned



LUDLOW & WILLINK.

the edifice of which you have so patiently and so successfully laid the foundation.

(Signed),

ANDREW OLIVER, Prof. of Greek,
 GEORGE B. HOPSON, Prof. of Latin,
 WILLIAM W. OLSSSEN, Prof. of Math.
 and Philosophy,
 C. A. FOSTER, Prof. of History,
 JAMES STRYKER, Asst. Prof. of Greek.

Annandale, June 19th, 1873.

The following address was then read by the Rt. Rev. Bishop of New York:

To the Rev. Dr. Fairbairn, Warden of S. Stephen's College:

REV. AND VERY DEAR SIR:—The undersigned, Trustees of S. Stephen's College, desire to avail themselves of this annual festival to renew their expressions of confidence and affectionate regard, and to add their tribute of love and gratitude to the testimony of esteem and honor which they have been delighted, but not surprised, to learn that the Faculty of the College are uniting in offering to you at this time. It is difficult for them to find words wherewith to express their sense of the judgment, patience, kindness, energy, perseverance, and self-devotion with which you have conducted the instruction, discipline, and general business of the College.

We return you our warmest thanks, and as an offering which we are assured will be most acceptable to you, we pledge to you and to your excellent associates the continuance of our most earnest exertions to promote the welfare of the institution over which you so worthily preside.

(Signed),

HORATIO POTTER, Bishop and Visitor,
 JOHN V. L. PRUYN, President of the
 Board of Trustees,
 J. IRELAND TUCKER,
 JOSEPH HARROD,
 J. F. DEPEYSTER,
 THOMAS W. OGDEN,
 JOHN W. MITCHELL,
 JOHN CAMPBELL,
 GEORGE F. SEYMOUR.

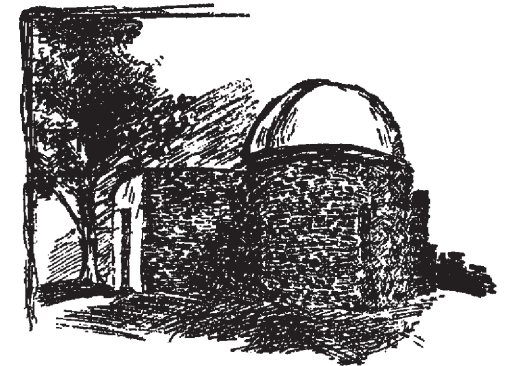


What higher tribute than that could be paid to the Warden of S. Stephen's? And yet the work which he had thus far done for her was but an earnest of the work he was still to do! S. Stephen's had need of him and for twenty-five years she was destined to be blessed by the ceaseless labor and never faltering love of Dr. Fairbairn. Could the history of S. Stephen's growth and development from 1863 to 1898 be written, it would be one long and eloquent tribute to the merits of Dr. Fairbairn. The years came and went, each bringing with it some new honor for the college, through its Warden. Finally in 1885 Potter and McVickar Halls were erected and in 1891 the two Hoffman Halls. In 1894 the beautiful library building presented by Dr. C. F. Hoffman was completed. Indeed, the hope expressed by the Faculty and Trustees on that commencement in '73 was more than realized. Dr. Fairbairn lived to see S. Stephen's grow into a college which deserves to hold a peculiar position of honor among the educational institutions of America, and all through his instrumentality. When, in 1898, he resigned his office, full of years and honors, he could do so with the sense of having performed faithfully the titanic task which he had set himself to do. He had indeed done a work of which he might well have been proud! He had given his life to it.

Dr. Fairbairn has been taken from us and rests from his labors. His memory will remain fresh in the hearts of men as long as true nobility and goodness are admired and loved. The Alumni of the college loved him, the undergraduates loved him; his place can never be filled by another, as far as they are concerned; for them there is but one "Warden." "Don," we used to say when speaking of him. Can that name, think you, ever be applied to another? His "sons" will speak it tenderly henceforth, and with reverence. Others will praise his noble acts and blameless life far more fittingly than we can hope to do, but we shall miss him to whom we, many of us, owe so much—whom many of us truly loved. There was a favorite expression of his, "clearly and distinctly before our minds," which he used very often; it was characteristic of him. Clearness and distinctness were the chief features of his faith and his teaching; he never was content with generalities; he wanted the pure and simple truth; through and through his was a pure and simple character; no one could help feeling when with him that they were in the presence of a perfectly consistent Christian, gentleman and scholar. A man whom to know was to *revere and love*.

* * * * *

At the time of his death Dr. Fairbairn was living with his daughter at No.



94 Decatur St., Brooklyn. The funeral services took place at 10 o'clock on the morning of Monday, Jan. 30th. The Rev. Dr. S. D. McConnell, Rector of Holy Trinity, extended the use of the church to the family. The services were very impressive. A large number of the clergy of the church were present as were also many of the students of the college and of the General Theological Seminary. Dr. McConnell read the lesson. The music was conducted by Dudley Buck. The Rev. Andrew F. Underhill, of the Church of the Good Shepherd, to which Dr. Fairbairn belonged, conducted part of the service, assisted by the Rev. A. A. Morrison. The Rev. Dr. Hopson, of S. Stephen's, read the committal service.

At the service in the chapel on the Sunday following Dr. Fairbairn's death, the Rev. Geo. B. Hopson preached the sermon which is published in the present issue.

At the hour of the funeral of Dr. Fairbairn in Brooklyn, a similar service was held in the college chapel. The chapel bell was tolled while the train, bearing the remains to their last resting place in Troy, passed up the river.

"Dr. Fairbairn was the oldest college president in the State of New York. He always manifested great interest in all educational matters, whether of a theological or of a purely secular nature. He was a regular attendant at the meetings of the University of the State of New York, and actively participated in the open sessions. He was an author whose books are an index to the spirituality of the writer. His principal works were "The Child of Faith," "College Sermons," "The Doctrine of Morality in its Relation to the Grace of the Gospel" and "The Unity of Faith."

The degree of doctor of divinity was conferred upon Mr. Fairbairn by Trinity College, Hartford, (his alma mater), in 1864. In 1874 S. Stephen's marked its sense of admiration and obligation by similarly honoring him. Two years later Delaware College conferred upon him the degree of doctor of laws. At the centennial celebration of Columbia College he was again recognized as worthy the degree of doctor of divinity.

Dr. Fairbairn was also a member of the Society of Science, Letters and Art of London, which voted him a gold medal "for high literary and scientific merit," and of the Accademia per le Giovani Italiane, a society devoted to the spread of belles lettres, music and the arts."

The final prayers at the grave in Troy were read by Rev. John W. Gilbert '90.

John Bard, Esq.

BY JOHN A. LEWIS, ESQ.



JOHN BARD, Esq.

I have undertaken to write briefly, not so much a biography, as a few personal recollections of a venerated friend, one who, in years gone by, was very closely identified with this neighborhood, and its interests. The name of John Bard was almost a household word among us in the early fifties. Very few of us now living remember the little hamlet of half a century ago. The old school-house, still standing, now a ruin, was the only educational institution, or place of religious worship in the neighborhood, services being held there periodically by clergymen of different denominations. This continued to be the case until Mr. Bard came to live among us.

He was born in Hyde Park, Dutchess County, June 2d, 1819. Most of his early life was spent in New York City. In the year 1853 he bought the estate from Mr. Robert Donaldson which he named Annandale; it was previously known as Blithewood. His wife, a noble woman of much wealth, was formerly Miss Margaret Johnston of New York City, and fully co-operated with him in all his generous efforts for the good of the place.

Soon after coming among us, he became impressed by the need of better educational advantages for the neighborhood, and his first venture was a small school for the children, which culminated in the erection of a Parish School building, and establishing a school under the care of competent teachers. The services of a clergyman were then secured, and regular Sunday services were held in one of the Parish School rooms.

As this grew and flourished Mr. Bard saw the possibility of a much larger and wider sphere of usefulness, and his magnanimous generosity conceived the idea of a training school to prepare young men for the ministry. This started with a small number (I think only four) under the instruction of the Rev. Geo. F. Seymour, the present Bishop of Springfield, Illinois, the students being lodged in a small building just north of the present Chapel. As he enlarged his philanthropic schemes his generous impulses grew with them and he saw the necessity for still greater expenditure, but his great heart never shrank from the responsibility. He gave the land, the boundaries of which are marked by the stone columns, and the Chapel. The brick College building soon followed. The Chapel, built entirely from their own personal means, was just completed, when, from an imperfect flue, (it was thought) it took fire, and was utterly destroyed. This was a crushing blow; but with characteristic energy and determination he rebuilt it the following year, this time, however, with the aid of outside contributions; but his own indefatigable energy and courage were the moving spirit of the enterprise, and alone carried it to a successful termination.

During the winter of 1868 occurred the event which apparently changed his

whole life. His only son, a young lad of just twelve years of age, the hope and idol of his father's heart, sickened and died, very suddenly, of malignant scarlet fever. The strong man, whom no temporal loss could overwhelm was shaken "as a reed by the wind," and perhaps for a time, hope and courage may have failed. Be that as it may, a few years after, in company with his wife and three daughters, he went abroad, where, except for occasional visits, he remained for over twenty years. In 1875 occurred the next great sorrow of his life. His beloved wife contracted Roman fever, during a short visit at Rome, and died after a brief illness. Then, two years after, his second daughter died of consumption. Both were brought home to rest beside *son* and *brother*, and add still stronger ties to bind him to Annandale.

He still remained abroad, however, and his eldest daughter having married an Englishman, and he himself having married an English woman, it seemed as if the ties binding him to the other side were being drawn so closely that we would hardly expect him to make his home among us again. But whether it was the marriage of another daughter to an American, or simply the longing for the familiar scenes of his early life, we know not, but the last few years of his life were spent in Washington.

He had been absent from us many years, and had formed new friends and new interests, but he never wanted in his interest and affection for Annandale, and we feel that we have a right to claim him as belonging to us.

He died in Washington, Feb. 12th, and on Feb. 16th was laid to rest in our little cemetery, by the side of his loved ones. It was meet and proper that his ashes should rest under the shadow of what was the consummation of his life's dearest hopes. Truly a good man has gone to his reward, and while we honor his memory let us emulate his virtues.

It is a strange coincidence that only two short weeks should intervene between the deaths of two so closely interwoven with our past, the one the Founder, and the other the successful master builder of the structure which both so loved. If we measure men's lives by what they achieve, which after all is the true test, then these two men did not live in vain, and the hearts of the people who loved them, will call them blessed.

(From the *Churchman* March 11, 1899.)

The Late John Bard, of Annandale.

BY W. ALLEN JOHNSON.

It does not seem as though such a man as the late Mr. John Bard, who died on Feb. 12, ought to be allowed to pass out of this world without some attempt to point the lesson of his noble life of service to God and man.

Mr. Bard was born June 2, 1819, his father being William Bard and his mother Catherine Cruger, daughter of Nicolas Cruger. He came of dis-

tinguished ancestry. His great-grandfather, Dr. John Bard, to whose pictures, in his old age, he bore a close resemblance, was a physician of eminence, before and after the War of the Revolution, a man of rare social gifts, and an earnest Christian. His grandfather, Dr. Samuel Bard, was the first physician of his time in New York, the founder of the New York City Hospital, president of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and the physician of General Washington during the latter's stay in New York. He founded St. James' parish, Hyde Park, and was eminent for his godly life. William Bard, John Bard's father, was a pioneer in Life Insurance in the United States, and for twelve years first president of the New York Life and Trust Co. He was a devout member of the Church, well read in her theology, and set an example to the men of Wall street by always attending the 9 a. m. service at old Trinity, before going to his business for the day.

On May 17, 1849, Mr. Bard married Margaret Taylor Johnston, a woman of kindred spirit, and about 1852 purchased an estate on the banks of the Hudson, in the upper part of Dutchess County, which he named Annandale, after the home of his wife's ancestors. He found the mental, moral and spiritual condition of much of the population of that part of the county very low. The public schools at that time were good for nothing. Mr. Bard very soon erected a chapel for the benefit of the neighborhood, and later, having secured the Rev. George F. Seymour (now Bishop Seymour) as chaplain, founded an efficient Parish School in two departments, in which he enlisted the interest and support of John Cruger, John Aspinwall and Edwin Bartlett, gentlemen of the neighborhood, which school was kept up for nearly twenty-five years.

At a neighboring village, things were still worse. Here, Mr. Bard erected a building at a cost of \$7,000—chapel above and school rooms below—and, securing the efficient services of the Rev. James Starr Clark, opened a parish school. This continued until finally merged in Mr. Clark's well-known boarding-school. The name of the village was changed; property advanced in value, and a wholly new era set in for a neglected place. Mr. Bard's zeal and liberality in Christian work attracted the attention of Bishop Wainwright, who urged him to establish a training school for the Ministry at Annandale. This request was renewed by Bishop Horatio Potter. Mr. Bard told the bishop that he had not a fortune equal to the support of such an institution; and only on the strong pledges of the support of the diocese of New York, did he venture to undertake the task. Mr. Bard often expressed regret that the bishop was unable to fulfill these pledges. Mr. Bard gave eighteen acres of his place and then erected a beautiful stone chapel at a cost of about \$30,000, which, just as it was completed, and before it was insured, burned to the ground. With great heroism and self-sacrifice on the part of both his wife and himself, he at once rebuilt it, and it is well known to-day as the chapel of the College, and the Parish Church of the neighborhood.

From about 1857, some young men had been studying for the ministry at Annandale under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Seymour. The school had increased, and on March 20, 1860, it was chartered as St. Stephen's College, admitting students for other professions, but never losing its original character as chiefly a training school for the Ministry of the Church. Its career was terminated by the death of the late warden, the Rev. R. B. Fairbairn, D.D., is well and honorably known.

After the death of his only son, Mr. Bard took his family abroad. He thought it was better for the college, which, he said, people spoke of as "Mr. Bard's college," and hoped that his withdrawal from the scene might prompt some one to take up the work. In England, the name, fame as a Churchman and the charming manners of Mr. Bard, admitted him within the carefully guarded precincts of English society, and few Americans have been more warmly welcomed to the inner circle of the gentry and ecclesiastics. His residence at Chichester was between that of Bishop Durnford, and the learned Dr. Burgeon, with both of whom he was on intimate terms. On April 10, 1887, his wife died while on a visit to Rome. On Oct. 18, 1886, he married Miss Mary Belcher, of Brighton, Eng. About 1890 he removed to Dresden, where he was made warden of the American chapel. But he longed for home, and in 1895 returned, fixing upon Washington as a desirable residence. He died there Feb. 12, and was buried at Annandale, N. Y., on Feb. 16, from the beautiful church he had built and rebuilt. He leaves a wife, two married daughters by his first wife, and one daughter by his second wife. "Uncle John," a nephew writes, "was a gentleman to the finger tips. Hospitable, kind, and sweet in thought to all, and a lovely, refined personality." Which, I take to be only another way of expressing the thoroughness of his Christianity.

St. Stephen's College stands to-day the fruitage of his planting. In some perilous times during his absence in Europe and, about 1888, the Dr. Fairbairn was on the point of resigning in despair, when a generous countryman, the Rev. Dr. Charles F. Hoffman, came to its aid, and in building up the college, endowments expended about \$250,000 for its support. It cannot do the things it might and ought to-day, simply for want of funds. Five hundred thousand dollars are needed, which ought to be a bagatelle to the laity of the diocese of New York, to complete its buildings, to increase the salaries attached to the existing chairs and to place them on a sure foundation; to procure new professors, and to broaden the course in accordance with the demands of the times while at the same time the social life of the institution would be developed to meet a great need for a college placed in the country.

It is a painful thing to say, but it ought to be said, and it is time someone said it plainly, that the laity of our rich Church, with some noble exceptions, boastful as we are of culture and education, are slack and indifferent in their support of their own schools and colleges. What other layman will be found to try and fill the vacant place?

Resolution.

At a meeting of the Faculty of St. Stephen's College, held January 28th, 1899, the following minute was adopted:

The Faculty of St. Stephen's College, having learned with deep sorrow of the death of their former colleague, the Rev. Robert B. Fairbairn, D.D., LL.D., Warden Emeritus, desire to place on record their appreciation of the great loss which has been sustained by the college and the church, as well as by his immediate family, and their regard for his high character and blameless life.

Coming to St. Stephen's at an early period in its history, with a clear conception of the work which he wished to accomplish, he gave to its course of study the form which it has since retained, and impressed upon the college the character which has gained for it its reputation.

His industry was remarkable; his learning was accurate and extensive, and his abilities were of a high order. He taught successfully in many departments, and never shirked labor of responsibility. He moulded the character of the young men, who were committed to his care, by his private advice, encouragement, and admonition, by his public teachings, and above all by his example. His influence will be perpetuated in the lives and doctrines of his former pupils. He was a warm friend, a courteous gentleman, an earnest Christian, a good man.

The college was his life work, and to it he gave the best powers of his mind and body, all that he was, and all that he had. His name will ever be associated with its history: his memory will be cherished as a precious heritage.

The REV. W. GEO. W. ANTHONY, M.A.,
Secretary of the Faculty.

Robert Brinckerhoff Fairbairn.

Inasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God to take from us our beloved warden *emeritus*, the Rev. Robert Brinckerhoff Fairbairn, D.D., LL.D., and

Inasmuch as we realize most truly the great value of Dr. Fairbairn's life and work in St. Stephen's College, and

WHEREAS, We, the student body, have felt most thoroughly the example of his meritorious and blameless life, we, the student body, desire to express our sympathy and regret to the bereaved family at their and our great loss, and have, therefore,

Resolved: That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family in token of our intense grief at the loss they and the world have sustained in the passing away of this good man.

"He did not die, for God took him."

C. W. POPHAM, '99,
L. H. WHITE, 1900,
J. P. GRAHAM, '01,
H. E. A. DURELL, '02,
Committee.

Resolution.

At the meeting of the trustees of St. Stephen's College, on Feb. 22, the following resolution was passed:

Resolved: That this Board cannot assemble for this special meeting without first of all placing upon record its deep sense of a common bereavement in the death of its late warden, the Rev. Dr. Fairbairn, and one of its first founders and friends, the late John Bard, Esq., to each of whom St. Stephen's College owes a great and enduring debt, and whose honored memories this Board will always gratefully and reverently cherish.

DOUGLAS MERRITT,
Secretary.

The Rev. Robert Brinckerhoff Fairbairn, D.D., LL.D.

At a meeting of personal friends of the late Dr. Fairbairn and graduates of St. Stephen's College, held immediately after the burial service in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 31st, 1899, the following minute was adopted:

The death of the Rev. Robert Brinckerhoff Fairbairn, D.D., L.L., came as a great shock to the many who knew, revered and loved him.

Dr. Fairbairn was a ripe scholar, an eminent educator, and a devoted son of the Church. For many years Warden of St. Stephen's College and entered upon his distinguished career as head of that institution of learning, that his powers had opportunity of adequate exercise. A clear thinker, skilled in logic and philosophy, especially strong in his grasp of ethical ideals, Dr. Fairbairn won the intellectual respect of those with whom he had to do, while his fine nature, combining with manhood's splendid courage the guilelessness of a little child, appealed to all that was strongest and best in youth.

The difficulties surmounted, the burdens sustained, the discouragements set at naught, during his many years of Wardenship over a poorly-supported,

ecclesiastical institution, witness to the indomitable spirit of the man, and it is but simple truth to say that in him St. Stephen's College found her prop and stay. The name of Robert B. Fairbairn is indelibly associated with the history of this Church undertaking, and is graven in the memory of the students who came under his warm hearted, watchful and scholarly care. Nearly three hundred candidates for Holy Orders were graduated from St. Stephen's College during the Wardenship of Dr. Fairbairn, and when at last, in the fullness of years he resigned his office the action was followed by glowing tributes of appreciation of his services from the Board of Trustees and from the Bishop of the Diocese.

Dr. Fairbairn will live in the memory of the Church and country as one of the great educators of the Church, and his influence will incalculably extend in the lives of those for whose interests he was ever so ready and willing to sacrifice himself.

Signed,

A. H. VINTON,
EUGENE A. HOFFMAN,
ALBERT C. BUNN,
P. MCD. BLEECKER,
C. G. COFFIN,
C. F. HOFFMAN, JR.,
GEO. B. HOPSON.

The Executive Committee of the New York Alumni Association of St. Stephen's College, speaking in behalf of the body it represents, desires to add its tribute of praise and gratitude for the good example and noble life of our late beloved Warden, the Rev. Robert B. Fairbairn, D.D., LL.D., whose recent death comes as a personal loss to all who were privileged to be his sons in the religious and intellectual life of our Alma Mater. His life and administration of his high duties will ever be remembered as conspicuous for a rare fidelity and devotion which must remain in our minds and hearts with all his other gifts. To crown intellectual power and personal sympathy with this supreme loyalty to duty, is to place in imperishable record a life worthy of every man's admiration and emulation. It is felt that the history of St. Stephen's College is not only bound up with the memory of its late Warden's career, but is the richer and fuller for his presence and masterful influence in it.

Signed Executive Committee,

FRANK B. REAZOR, Vice-President.
F. STIRLING GRIFFIN, Secretary.

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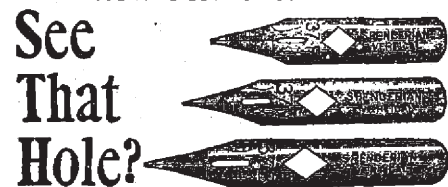
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