

Prof Ballantine.

M.W. You might glean from these some particulars
of Prof. B's life. earlier than for the obsequies.

We have met here to day to ^{attend} ~~celebrate~~ the obsequies of Professor Elisha Ballantine, who on last Tuesday was so suddenly and unexpected taken from us. He was known to nearly all the inhabitants of Bloomington, and ^{was} universally respected and beloved, His memory will remain long fragrant, and he will be often referred to by the old and the young as presenting an example worthy of imitation.

Prof Ballantine was born in Schedack in the State of New York Oct 11th 1809, and was by pious parents carefully trained in the ways of truth and righteousness. He was well educated in school and college, graduating from the Ohio University at Athens. He studied Theology at ~~the~~ Union Seminary Va. & afterwards spent eighteen months in Halle studying ^{for the ministry} ~~theology~~ in that famous school, and making himself ~~a~~ proficient in the German language, thus preparing himself for the professorship he held in the Theological Seminary, where he had been a student. ~~and~~ He afterwards became Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Prince Edward Co, and relinquishing this charge, he was called to the Presbyterian Church, now under the ministry of Dr Sunderland, in Washington D.C. which charge he gave up, being threatened with Paralysis. In 1854 he came to Bloomington having been elected Prof. of Mathematics in Indiana University. after filling this chair for two years, he was transferred

to the chair of languages Dr Kirkwood having accepted the chair of Mathematics. From 1863 to 1867 he was Secretary of the ^{American} Board of Foreign Missions. and in 1867 he returned to the University, having been elected Professor of Greek, since which time he has as Professor and Professor-emeritus, continued his connection with the University.

As to moral and religious character our beloved friend, was not only in our judgment, but in the judgment of many, as faultless as it was possible for a descendant of Adam to be. In early life he had taken the man Christ Jesus as his model, and endeavored to be like him in his holiness in his purity and his benificence. Prof. Ballantine was a sincere man, there was no dissimulating about him, he was no flatterer, his words were the true representatives of his thoughts. He was benevolent, kind to all, & his kindness manifested itself in his ^{deeds} ~~doings~~ good to all with whom he was brought in contact, and in supporting every truly good cause. He was honest, and honorable in all his dealings with others, amiable in his disposition, & highly esteemed by all who knew him. He was not merely a moral man, but he made the law of God his delight and his constant study. He was a faithful Pastor. As a preacher he was plain and practical an often eloquent. He was careful and prudent in his dealings with the wayward, affectionate and kind in encouraging

and directing the sincere enquirer - and always ready to cheer and strengthen weak and discouraged disciples of the Saviour.

Proseper Ballantine was truly Catholic & by no means bigoted in his religious views, Though strongly attached to his own church, the Presbyterian, he could appreciate and regard as a fellow Christian, a sincere believer in the Saviour, by whatever name he was called. In times of affliction and in prospect of death his counsel and his prayers, and his services were sought and freely given to families and individuals of nearly every shade of belief - and even to those who had neglected all religious duties, when conscience smitten they felt that the end of their earthly life ~~had~~ was near.

Proseper Ballantine had the respect of the whole community, Protestant and Roman Catholic of ~~the~~ Jew and ~~the~~ Gentile - One of the citizens expressed himself thus to the writer, - "If Proseper Ballantine has not gone to heaven, no person in Bloomington need ever hope to get there." a sentiment somewhat roughly stated but ~~but~~ no doubt ^{it} will be endorsed by all.

As a literary man and a Scholar Proseper Ballantine stood in the first rank. He was excellent in ~~the~~ range in his scholarship, In addition to his knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, he was

an excellent Hebrew scholar, he had also a ^{very} considerable knowledge of other Semitic ~~languages~~ ^{dialects}. Of modern languages, he had a perfect command of the German and French. The Professor was not a voluminous writer, but he contributed many able essays to various periodicals. Some years ago, after so many biographies of Jesus had been published, he contributed a volume in which, by collecting from the Gospels the words of ^{the Saviour} Jesus, ~~he~~ ^{he is} made, as it were, his own biographer.

Prof Ballantine married Miss B. A. Watkins of Prince Edward Co. Va. M^{rs} Ballantine ^{died} Apr 4th 1873 leaving at present surviving, two sons & two daughters. The sons - the Rev. Henry W. Ballantine Pastor of the Presbyterian Church Bloomfield N. J. ~~The two~~ daughters, M^{rs} Mary Brown and the Rev William F. Ballantine, Professor in the Theological Seminary Oberlin Ohio. The two daughters - M^{rs} Mary O. Brown wife of Rev Henry L. Brown of Ohio Wis. & Miss Anna T. Ballantine, so well known in Bloomington for her zeal in every good cause.

Thus in a good old age our esteemed friend and brother full of the honor of a well spent life, has entered the mansions of the redeemed. We may mourn when we think of our loss, but may we not rejoice that our friend has fought a good fight, has achieved a victory & has received his glorious reward? Mark the perfect man & behold the upright for the end of that man is peace. —