

Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of the Juniata Valley, Comprising the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata, and Perry, Pennsylvania, J. M. Runk and Company, Publishers 1897



**Rev. Samuel Carothers Alexander, D. D.**, Millerstown, Perry County, Pa., son of **Randall** and **Sarah (Carothers) Alexander**, was born near Shirleysburg, Huntingdon County, Pa., in 1833. **Samuel C. Alexander** graduated from Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, Pa., in 1858, and from the Theological Seminary of Columbia, S. C. in 1861. He was pastor of the Steel Creek Church, Mecklenburg County, N. C. until 1865. He was actively concerned in founding and organizing Biddle University, at Charlotte, N. C. and received the degree of D. D. from that institution in June, 1895. While he was connected with the university, he was also extensively engaged in literary work, writing for the press in different parts of the country, and for a time was editor of the Freeman's Journal, published in Charlotte, N. C. For fourteen years, he was the successful pastor of the large Upper Path Valley Presbyterian church. His great-grandfather, whose descendants have been represented in the ruling eldership, in an unbroken succession, to the

present time, was one of the founders of this church. In 1887, **Samuel Alexander** removed to Millerstown, Pa., and became pastor of the churches at Newport and Millerstown. He is scholarly in appearance, eloquent and impressive in delivery, greatly beloved by his people, and honored in the community. He has acquired property and now owns the homestead on which he was born.

**Rev. Samuel Carothers Alexander** was married, March 25, 1862, to **Nannie R. Price**, of Charlotte, N. C. Their children are: **Alice M.**; **William**; **Jessie L.**; **Clara B.**; **George E.**; and **Annie K.**

The ancestral history of the **Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Carothers Alexander** is as follows.

**Reynold Alexander**, a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian, is found, with few others, a settler in Path Valley, one mile south of the present village of Dry Run, Franklin County, Pa., as early as 1750. He was a man of good education, strong religious convictions, and great personal courage. He was active in founding the Presbyterian Church at Spring Run, and was one of the original trustees to whom Governor John Penn made a grant of land "for a Presbyterian meeting-house and burial ground," in 1761. He took up and acquired by purchase large tracts of land in the State. This land is still occupied principally by his descendants. He had three sons: **Robert**;

**James**; and **William**; and one daughter, **Polly**, who married **David Campbell**, an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

**Col. William Alexander**, youngest son of **Reynold Alexander**, born in 1767, was a prominent citizen of Franklin County, Pa. He was County Commissioner from 1810 to 1811, auditor from 1815 to 1816, and from 1825 to 1826 represented the county in the legislature. In 1811 he raised a company of volunteers in his native valley, and as their captain, mustered them into service against the British at Baltimore, just before Lord Ross appeared against the city. He afterwards received a colonel's commission. At the age of nineteen he married **Ann Moore**. Their children are: **Thomas**; **William**; **James**; **Robert**; **Randall**; **Margaret** (Mrs. **Ebenezer McGinley**); **Mary** (Mrs. **David Elder**); **Anna** (Mrs. **Andrew Wilson**); **Temperance** (Mrs. **Edward Kirkpatrick**); and **Janett** (Mrs. **John Templeton**). **Thomas Alexander**, son of **Col. William Alexander**, was sheriff of Franklin County from 1814 to 1817, and later removed to the west. He was married, in 1808, to **Susan (Walker) Elder**. Their sons are: **William**; and **James**. The **Hon. William Alexander**, member of the legislature from Cumberland County, was married to **Miss Osborn**. He died at Newille, Pa., in August, 1837. **Randall Alexander**, when a young man, removed to Huntingdon County, Pa., where he served for many years as justice of the peace. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church. In 1836, he received the Democratic nomination for the legislature. He was married in February, 1831 to **Sarah A. Carothers**. Their children are: **William**; **Samuel C.**; **John T.**; **Thomas J.**; **Robert M.**; **George E.**; and **David N.**

**Rev. William Alexander**, D. D., son of **Randall Alexander**, was born in 1831. In 1858, he graduated from Washington and Jefferson College, and in 1861, from Princeton Theological Seminary; in the latter year he was installed as pastor of the Newbury Church, Williamsport, Pa. He afterwards accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church in Beloit, Wis., and in 1869 to the church in San Jose, Cal. In 1871 he was chosen president of City College, San Francisco, Cal., and two years later, he and the Rev. Dr. Scott, by the direction and under the auspices of the Synod of the Pacific, founded the Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church in San Francisco, Cal., in which institution he is a Professor. In 1876, he received the degree of D. D. from Wooster University. He was married in December, 1861, to **Minerva Osborn**. They had three children: **William**; **Thomas Newton**; and **Paul Clifton**. **Randall McGinley Alexander**, M. D., graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1872, and is a successful physician in Fannettsburg, Franklin County, Pa. He was married in 1871 to **Mary J. McGaughey**. Their children are: **Newton**; **Frank**; and **Archibald**. **Hon. Thomas Jefferson Alexander** was born March 13, 1838. He is a merchant, residing in Nebraska, and has served in the legislature of that State. **George Edmund Alexander**, M. D., born October 15, 1817, graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1871, and is a prominent physician in San Ramon, Cal.; he has acquired some celebrity as a surgeon. He was married to **Mary Lynch**; has one son, **Archibald**, and a daughter, named **Mary**.

**William Alexander**, son of **John T.**, and grandson of **Randall Alexander**, was born in 1859. He read law in Chambersburg, Pa., with the firm of Stenger & McKnight, and was admitted to the bar in 1883. He was chairman of the Democratic committee of Franklin County, and is successfully practicing his profession in Chambersburg, Pa.

**John Alexander**, son of **James**, and grandson of **Reynold Alexander**, was born in 1800; he owned and cultivated the mountain farm which had belonged to his grandfather. His education was conducted with a view to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church, but failing health obliged him to relinquish all hope of entering that profession, and to turn his attention to agricultural pursuits. He has been very successful in business and has acquired a large estate. He was commissioner of Franklin County from 1862 to 1864. For many years he was a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church, and was universally esteemed as a man of probity and honor. He was married to **Annie McCurdy**. Their children are: **James**; **Mary J.**; **McGinley**; and **Margaret Blair**. He died in 1876. **William Alexander**, a grandson of **John Alexander**, is a merchant in Dry Run, Pa., and an honored elder in the Presbyterian Church. He was married, November 26, 1885, to **Nettie B. Wolff**.

**Joseph B. Alexander**, a descendant of **Robert**, son of **Reynold Alexander**, of the fifth generation from the original settler, is a prosperous citizen of Path Valley, Franklin County, Pa.

**Nannie R. Price**, wife of **Rev. Samuel Carothers Alexander**, is a daughter of **Thomas B.** and **Margaret (Neagle) Price**. **Thomas B. Price** was born in Mecklenburg County, N. C., January 30, 1814. He resides on his plantation. For many years he has been an elder in the Steel Creek Presbyterian Church, near Charlotte, N. C. **Mr. Price** served as justice of the peace in Mecklenburg County until the time of the Civil war. Before the secession of North Carolina he was a strong Union man, but like many others he decided that his allegiance was due to his native State; he therefore supported the cause until the close of the war. He was married twice. His second wife was **Elizabeth Parks**. Their children are: **Andrew Parks**, died at the old homestead; **Margaret Josephine Annetta**, resides at the homestead in North Carolina; **Elizabeth J.**, died aged nine years; **Thomas K.**, died at the homestead about 1893; and **John Knox**, resides on the homestead, married **Essie Summerville**, has two children, **Andrew Parks** and **Sarah Annetta**.

**Isaac Price**, **Mrs. Alexander's** grandfather, born in Mecklenburg County, N. C., August 2, 1778, was of Scotch-Irish descent, and inherited his father's property situated on the Catawba River, eleven miles from Charlotte, N. C. He was married in 1811, to **Nancy Barnett**. Their children were: **Esther B.**, born May 30, 1812, died in her sixth year; **Thomas Barnett**, father of **Mrs. Alexander**, was born January 30, 1814, died June 23, 1896; **Ann G. (Mrs. James Knox)**, born July 19, 1816, died February 23, 1847; **John James**, born February 20, 1818, died in North Carolina, about 1889; **Isaac Jasper**, born December 25, 1819, died November 1, 1885; **Mary Martha (Mrs. William McDowell)**, born January 29, 1822, resided in Tennessee, where she died in 1877; **Nancy Rebecca**, born September 10, 1823, died September 29, 1831; **Joseph William**, born July 6, 1825, died July 19, 1827; **Jane Margaret Barnett (Mrs. Starr Neely)**, born February 11, 1828, died in North Carolina, in 1895; and **Julius Giles**, born April 18, 1832, resides in North Carolina. **Mr. Isaac Price** died at the homestead, June 22, 1833; his wife died in 1854, aged eighty-four. **Mrs. Alexander's** great-grandfather, **Isaac Price**, was born in Mecklenburg County, N. C., in 1747. He was a white-smith, and also owned a large farm, which he bequeathed to his son **Isaac**. During the Revolutionary war, he made swords and presented them to the Continental army. General Tarleton, of the British army, hearing of his devotion to the cause of freedom, sought to capture him, but he was warned, and succeeded in making his escape. He was married to **Esther Bradley**, who was born in 1748, and died in 1811. Their

children are: **Rebecca**, born January 28, 1772, died in North Carolina; **Joseph**, born May 24, 1775, died in North Carolina; **James**, born June 20, 1778, died in North Carolina; **Mary (Mrs. Benjamin Ormond)**, born July 12, 1780, died in North Carolina; **John**, born May 4, 1783, died in North Carolina; **Esther**, born January 5, 1786, married a minister and removed to Tennessee, where she died; **Isaac**, Mrs. Alexander's grandfather and **Martha**, born May 5, 1791, died in North Carolina.

**Mrs. Alexander's** great-great-grandfather, **John Price**, of Scotch-Irish descent, was born in Ireland in 1715. When a young man he came to America with a party of emigrants who passed through Pennsylvania, and finally reached what is now Mecklenburg County, N. C. where they were the first settlers. He was married to **Mary White**, who died November 25, 1804. The following inscription was taken from his tombstone: "**John Price**, died October 27, 1802, aged eighty-seven years, after having lived to discharge the duty of a child, a husband, a father, a citizen, a Christian, with a great degree of respectability."

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