ARCHIVES
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Allan Ditchfield Campbell
(1791-1861)

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Transferred from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
HISTORY

Allan Ditchfield Campbell was born at Chorley, Lancashire, England, March 15, 1791. While he was yet young, he and his mother joined his father in the United States, settling in Baltimore. Mr. Campbell graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and studied theology under John Mitchell Mason in Newburgh, New York. With this background, Mr. Campbell was licensed to preach by the Associate Reformed Church of Philadelphia in 1815 and appointed to preach in vacant churches in Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. Campbell was married in Pittsburgh in 1817 and in 1818 he was ordained by Monongahela Presbytery as pastor of Meadville and Sugar Creek. When the Synod of Scioto separated from the Associate Reformed Church, Mr. Campbell declined to go with them and was united with the Presbytery of Redstone of the Presbyterian Church.

In 1820 Mr. Campbell was removed to Tennessee and the pastorate of First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, where he served for seven years. He was befriended by Andrew Jackson who supported Campbell’s work until his return to Pennsylvania in 1828. At that time Mr. Campbell became much involved with the creation of Western Theological Seminary in Allegheny (now Northside, Pittsburgh). In that same year, Campbell visited England and Scotland where he gathered a library of some 2000 books for the new seminary.

Mr. Campbell served Fourth Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, for a time, but resigned to give his full time to the seminary as “general agent” and instructor in Church Government and Discipline until 1840. He served as pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in Allegheny and later supplied pulpits in the area. Washington College granted a D.D. to Campbell in 1843.

Dr. Allan Campbell died September 20, 1861 and was buried in Allegheny Cemetery.

SCOPE

The record of Allan D. Campbell is comprised of the manuscript of his history of the development of Western Theological Seminary, Allegheny (Pittsburgh). The printed version of this is contained in The Bulletin of the Western Theological Seminary, Vol. XX, No. 1, October 1927.