IN MEMORIAM

RALPH BROUWER POMEROY

The Rev. Ralph Brouwer Pomeroy died August 14, 1935, following a considerable period of ill health. He was born in 1876 and received his education at Columbia University and the General Theological Seminary. After having been ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Church in 1901 and a priest in 1902, he served for four years as curate at a church in Newport, Rhode Island, and from 1906 to 1913 was assistant minister at Trinity Church, Princeton, New Jersey. In the latter year he was made rector of that important parish and soon after became lecturer on Religion at Princeton University, where he had already received an M. A. degree.

In 1917 Mr. Pomeroy gave up these positions to become instructor in Church History, Polity and Canon Law at the General Theological Seminary. Two years later, he was elected to the professorship of Ecclesiastical Polity and Canon Law at the Seminary and held this office until 1925. In connection with his Seminary work, he acted as priest in charge of a small parish at West Orange, New Jersey; as associate in the department of Religion at Columbia University, 1920-23; and as Warden and Professor of Church History at the New York Training School for Deaconesses, 1922-24. At the end of 1924 he retired from his academic positions, but continued his pastoral work until the time of his death.

Professor Pomeroy was a member of the American Historical Association, the American Society of Church History and other learned bodies. He was a ready speaker, a facile writer and a popular lecturer and found his work and delight in the exercise of these gifts. He attempted no sustained literary work and his publications consisted principally of essays, sermons and magazine articles. In 1924 he was married to Miss Florence Louise Walton, who survives him.

CHARLES N. SHEPHARD.

HENRY CLAY VEDDER, A.M., D.D.

Henry Clay Vedder, long a member of the American Society of Church History, died in Chester Hospital, Chester, Pennsylvania, on Sunday, October 13, 1935.

Dr. Vedder was born in De Ruyter, New York, on February 26, 1853. Attending the University of Rochester he received his A.B. in 1873, his A.M. in 1876 and was honored with a D.D. in 1897. Graduating also from the Rochester Theological Seminary in 1876, he joined the editorial staff of The Examiner in that year, remaining a member thereof until 1894—the last two years being Editor-in-Chief. In this year he was called to

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Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pennsylvania, to become Professor of Church History, which chair he held until his retirement in 1926. During the years 1906-09 he was also librarian of this institution. Since 1928 he had been a member of the editorial staff of The Chester Times, writing a daily column which he entitled “A Chief and His Notes,” which with its evidence of wide knowledge, balanced judgment, deep insight and keen wit delighted his many readers. He also contributed an editorial in almost each daily issue. His religious editorials of the Saturday paper, always instructive, inspiring and charmingly written, were eagerly read and deeply appreciated.

The funeral services were held in Commencement Hall, Crozer Theological Seminary, on Wednesday afternoon, October 16, Rev. Edwin S. Fry, Dr. Vedder’s pastor having charge of the ceremonies. Dr. Milton G. Evans, President Emeritus of Crozer Seminary, delivered the principal address. Having been related to the Seminary since 1887 as student and teacher, he was long an associate of Dr. Vedder and brought to the large congregation which had gathered to pay tribute to the memory of teacher and friend an intimate understanding of his character and achievements. He spoke of his high-mindedness, his persistent search for truth, his historical acumen, catholicity of spirit, devotion to church, home and community, his gentleness of character. Prayer was offered by President J. H. Franklin and by Professor R. E. E. Harkness, Dr. Vedder’s successor in the chair of Church History in Crozer Seminary.

Of the products of Dr. Vedder’s pen word need not be spoken. His many historical volumes are well known, especially those dealing with the Reformation period. He was a prolific writer and always stimulating. His brief articles, appearing in later years, in magazines and denominational press still revealed his vigor and his facility.

R. E. E. Harkness.