

SAMUEL MACAULEY JACKSON AS A CO-WORKER WITH PHILIP SCHAFF

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THE close literary relations between Dr. Jackson and Dr. Philip Schaff were begun in 1878 while Dr. Jackson was the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Norwood New Jersey, and continued without interruption till Dr. Schaff's death in 1893.

The first literary work which Dr. Schaff called upon the young pastor to do was the preparation of material for the *Dictionary of the Bible* which Dr. Schaff edited for the Sunday School Union and which appeared in Philadelphia in 1880. Upon this volume, according to the preface, Dr. Jackson "devoted nearly two years of uninterrupted labor."

The assistance rendered in the preparation of the *Dictionary* was so satisfactory that Dr. Schaff associated Dr. Jackson with himself in the production of the *Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia*, so-called, from its inception. The editorial labor upon that enterprise was done in the two rooms in the Bible House at the corner of Ninth Street and Fourth Avenue, occupied by Dr. Schaff as his study, which was also used by the American Companies on Bible Revision for their monthly meetings until the completion of the Revisions in 1881 and 1885.

Closely associated with Dr. Jackson in the work of the

office was Mr. Clemens Petersen, a Dane and graduate of the University of Copenhagen, a man of extensive attainments, well equipped for encyclopedic work. In 1881, the present writer became associated with the *Encyclopedia*. Dr. Jackson and he acted as its responsible associate editors.

The preparation of a religious and historical book of reference on the scale of the German *Real Encyclopädie* founded by Professor Herzog of Erlangen was an undertaking which required courage on the part of the American editor. A prior difficulty with which he was confronted was the securing of a publisher, willing to risk a large expenditure of money. Such a publisher was found in Funk & Wagnalls who, according to their statement, have invested no less than \$300,000 in the *New Schaff-Herzog*.

With full heart and soul Dr. Jackson entered into the work of co-operating with Dr. Schaff in this literary undertaking. On the other hand Dr. Schaff placed confidence in his younger colleague, a confidence which grew stronger as Dr. Schaff's acquaintance with his literary equipment, sound judgment, and administrative ability increased. Dr. Jackson reproduced articles from the German text and prepared original articles. In addition, he attended, except in special cases, to the extensive correspondence with authors which the work entailed and he also examined the proofs as they came from the printer.

His constant presence in his father's study for two years, during which the work was in progress, and frequent conversations with his father about Dr. Jackson enables the present writer to say again that Dr. Schaff held Dr. Jackson in warm and confidential regard as a literary associate and as a gentleman. The qualities which commended Dr. Jackson to his older colleague were his prudent scholarship, his love of accuracy, his unfailing urbanity and equableness of temper, his mental fairness and his unvarying readiness to receive counsel and suggestions from Dr. Schaff and, in fact,

from every quarter where by reason of age or special scholarship respect was properly due.

In co-operating upon the *Schaff-Herzog*, Dr. Jackson was doing fresh work upon a kind of undertaking new among us. The *Encyclopedia* was of mark in the history of theological literature in this country. Dr. J. H. A. Bomberger, of the German Reformed Church, afterwards president of Ursinus College, undertook a literal translation of the first edition of the German *Herzog*, and carried the work through two volumes, 1856-1862, which contained material from six volumes of the original. The further prosecution of the enterprise was interrupted by the Civil War.

Dr. Schaff's scheme was entirely different. It was intended to preserve the material in the German book which was of real value for the English reader and at the same time to give a positive Anglo-Saxon complexion to the English work. This purpose was secured by condensing the original German articles and by adding new articles contributed by American and English scholars on topics not treated in the German edition. Dr. Schaff did not hesitate in cases to substitute contributions by English-speaking scholars for German articles on the same subject.

The title-page of the new work contained the words, "*Based on the Real-Encyclopædie of Herzog, Plitt, and Hauck*," thus sufficiently stating the method pursued. Dr. Schaff intended a reproduction rather than a translation, but a reproduction in which the literary rights of the German authors should be sacredly respected, except in that of translating their articles word for word.

In following this plan, the veteran theologian was consistent with the method he counseled from almost the earliest period of his residence in America. He had been in this country scarcely a year when he began in public addresses to take the position that it was going against what seemed to be the evident purpose of Providence to attempt to perpetuate the German language on our soil or to attempt

to perpetuate German customs without modification and adaptation to our free institutions and new beginnings. The same principle he would have applied to German text-books. In this he incurred the bitter condemnation of a portion of the German press of the land as well as the suspicion of many good German ministers and a large part of the German-American Church constituency of the first generation. Faithful, however, to the terms of the call which brought him from Berlin to Mercersburg, he continued for some years to publish the *Kirchenfreund* in German and he also issued the first edition of his *History of the Apostolic Church*, 1851, in German.

The *Religious Encyclopedia or Dictionary of Biblical, Historical, Doctrinal, and Practical Theology*, which soon came to be known as the *Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia* appeared in three volumes in 1882-1884. It perhaps cannot be said that the work was in all points what the editor would have had it be, but it was a distinct contribution to the theological apparatus of Anglo-American scholars and pastors.

This work was followed up by the publication of the *Encyclopedia of Living Divines and Christian Workers of All Denominations in Europe and America*, 1887 (p. 271). Dr. Schaff and Dr. Jackson were equally editors of this volume of which the *Nation* said: "Its great catholicity is shown in the selection of names and the best taste in the preparation of the articles. The data presented have been obtained in most cases at first hand. It is even more comprehensive than its title implies." While Dr. Schaff laid out the principles which were to be followed in the selection of names for insertion and the treatment of biographical details, it may be said that upon Dr. Jackson fell the full task of execution. The volume, so far as I am aware, broke new ground in its department. In 1891 this encyclopedia was made a part of the *Schaff-Herzog*, which was henceforth published in four volumes.

The preparation of the third edition of the German

Herzog under the editorial care of Professor Hauck of Leipzig, together with the fact that the lapse of a generation made necessary a radical revision of the American work, it was decided by Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls to destroy the old plates and to produce a new work based upon the new German edition. Dr. Jackson became the sole editor-in-chief and to his industry and skill are to be ascribed its merits and its happy completion in twelve volumes (1908-1912), a few months before his death. It was Dr. Schaff's hope that a new edition would in due time be prepared and the *Encyclopedia* be "kept fully abreast of the times," an expression he often used of his books. He had provided for its issuance by the appointment of Dr. Jackson and his son, the present writer, as co-editors. Other duties, especially the preparation of two volumes of the *History of the Christian Church*, covering the period 600-1517, made it impossible for the latter to enter upon editorial responsibility at that time. Delay in beginning the undertaking seemed to him to be unwise. It was for these reasons that he confided, not without reluctance, his rights to Dr. Jackson. And for the same reasons he was obliged to decline the editorial oversight of any of the departments into which the materials of the *Encyclopedia* were apportioned. All that he felt able to undertake was the revision of articles prepared for the first edition by his father and himself.

No one could have set himself with more enthusiasm and greater diligence to the preparation of the new work than did Dr. Jackson. By training and by temper, he was admirably fitted for the task. It is a testimony to his regard for the original editor that he gave the new work the title, *The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*. A perusal of its pages will show that they are encyclopedic in their breadth and wise in their condensation; and that the theological tone which pervades the volumes is the tone which characterized Dr. Schaff's theology; tolerant to all reverent scholarship, judicious, and distinctly biblical and

pietistic. That he would be greatly pleased with the volumes were he here to look them through there can be no hesitation in affirming. The work will serve the present generation of English-speaking students well. It is a credit to Anglo-American scholarship, and notably to the scholarly patience and administrative wisdom of Dr. Jackson.

The last literary work in which Dr. Jackson co-operated with his older friend was in the preparation of certain biographical sections for the fourth volume of Dr. Schaff's *History of the Christian Church*, 600-1050. On page 621 credit is given to the younger author for contributions.

When Dr. Schaff was stricken with paralysis at Lake Mohonk in 1892, he at once called Dr. Jackson to his side. At the time, Dr. Schaff was engaged in finishing the last pages of his *Propædæutic* for the press. It was his purpose to put the completion of the volume into Dr. Jackson's hands but his recovery was so rapid that he was able to finish the work himself.

Enjoying Dr. Schaff's full confidence as a literary co-worker, Dr. Jackson was always a welcome guest in Dr. Schaff's home. When he passed away in the autumn of 1893, Dr. Jackson was chosen, with the approval of the family to prepare the elaborate notice of the deceased's life which appeared in the New York *Evangelist* with whose editor, Dr. Henry M. Field, Dr. Schaff had been on terms of intimate friendship for many years and to whose pages he had been a frequent contributor.

The public services in the Church of the Covenant being over, Dr. Jackson accompanied the family to the burial lot in Woodlawn Cemetery and there pronounced the last prayer over his friend.

It was Dr. Schaff's habit to cultivate the acquaintance and friendship of young theologians and students as well as to cherish the friendship of his contemporaries. There were two reasons for his doing so, as he used to say; to keep himself abreast of the fresh thought of the age, and to discern in the

distance the theological sky of the new generation which was to come. Among these younger men, and their number was not small here and abroad, no one enjoyed more fully his confidence and his affection than did Dr. Jackson.