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GEORGE BURMAN FOSTER.

George Burman Foster was born in Monroe Co., West Virginia, April 2, 1857. His grandfather, John Foster, came from England in his boyhood, and served as a soldier in the war of 1812. His father Oliver Cromwell Foster is still living and is engaged in agricultural pursuits in the blue-grass region of West Virginia. At an early age young Foster was seized with a desire for mental culture and was able largely through his own exertions to secure in succession an academic, a collegiate, a university and a full theological course. He secured the diploma of Shelton College in 1879, after four years of study. Before entering upon his college course he had united with a Baptist church on a profession of faith and had consecrated his life to the gospel ministry. He was ordained in 1879 and the same year entered the University of West Virginia, where after four years of earnest application he was graduated with the honors of his class. On the completion of his university course he was united in marriage with Mary Lyon, daughter of Professor F. S. Lyon, and niece of Mary Lyon, the famous founder of Mt. Holyoke Seminary. In 1883 he entered upon a course of theological study in the Rochester Theological Seminary where he gained high distinction as a student and awakened among his teachers high expectations regarding his future career as a teacher.