

able at any time since to look out on that expanse of water, even when gleaming in its brightest hues, without feeling that a shade was over it. He who a few days after that catastrophe stood in the presence of a stricken audience in this village to speak of the loss and its lessons, has been after the lapse of so long a time the third to be summoned away. The infrequency, therefore, of such an event as this which has been the occasion of your meeting at the present time, might well lead one who is to take part in these services to approach them with some degree of solicitude. Another reason for hesitancy appears in the condition of the minds of my audience. Your estimation of the worth of him whose name is foremost in your memories at this hour, your judgment of his character as a man, his worth as a friend, his usefulness as a teacher, his service of the public in every good cause, his devotion to the institution of learning in which you are so much interested, will naturally be taken as the measure of your expectations in regard to what should be said at such a time. If one must fill the measure of such expectations or come short of his duty in speaking, then it becomes me to be silent. But it is evident that while you have assembled in part to hear something concerning the chief characteristics and ruling principles of an excellent life, nevertheless your presence here and the distinctness of the appointments of this hour are the most emphatic expressions of respect and affection for him whose life and character we are to contemplate. We come together in the exercise of common sympathies. It is because the tribute which we bring to the worth of a departed friend is the product of the heart as well as of the mind, that I am encouraged to feel that my words will not be out of harmony with the conceptions and feelings of the audience. A cherished memory is embalmed in the sensibilities of the heart. These will always respond to any genuine expression of esteem or affection for one whose memory is thus cherished. As we have these common sympathies, I shall trust that I have one qualification for speaking to you of him whom we have all so long known and honored.

John Mockett Cramp was born in St. Peter's, Isle of Thanet, July 25, 1796. His father was pastor of the Baptist Church in that place. The son received such privileges of education in his earlier years as the locality permitted. On the 13th of September, 1812, he was received by baptism into the membership of the church of which his father was pastor. He soon after began to