

August 3rd, 1836. After passing through the Public School he was prepared for College in the Rochester Collegiate Institute of which Professor H. W. Benedict was then the Principal. This was in 1849-1852. After this he had a year's experience in the counting-room and the business of the Rochester Daily Democrat, of which his father, Alvah Strong, was the proprietor. In 1853 he entered Yale College, and from this College he was graduated in 1857. At his graduation he was Class Orator, and also De Forest Gold-Medalist. It was during this period, in a revival in Rochester under the great Charles G. Finney, that Mr. Strong was converted to God. The fruit of that revival under Finney abounds in Rochester to this day. Dr. Strong often recalls that time with gratitude to God. In 1857 he entered the Rochester Theological Seminary, of which Doctor E. G. Robinson was then the President. Doctor Robinson was a man of unusual vigor and independence whose teaching and whose personality left their mark on every student. Associated with him in the Faculty were Doctors V. R. Hotchkiss, and G. W. Northrup. Here Mr. Strong spent two years. Then in 1859 he went to Europe where he spent a year at the University of Berlin, and in traveling in Italy, Palestine, Egypt and Greece. It will thus be seen that he enjoyed great advantages in preparing for his life-work. How well he used those advantages his subsequent career plainly shows.

His first regular preaching to a church was to the North Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., in 1860-61. From 1861 to 1865 he was pastor of the First Baptist Church, Haverhill, Mass. In 1865 he became pastor of the First Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio, and this position he filled until the year 1872. In the year 1872 he was called to succeed Doctor E. G. Robinson as President and Professor of Biblical Theology in the Rochester Theological Seminary, which position he still occupies. It was a sign of the great confidence with which he was regarded that he was called to so responsible a place at such a comparatively early age; that confidence he has never disappointed or betrayed. Indeed, it is characteristic of the man that the longer he is known and proved, the more he is trusted; no interest for which he is responsible ever suffers because of him; no friend ever finds him lacking in anything which true friendship implies.