

We were permitted to peruse a letter received by Mr. Henry M. Collins from his son George C., now a student in Princeton University. In it he refers to the death of our old and esteemed friend, John Anthony Simmons, whose demise we noticed a few weeks ago. Mr. Collins, in his reference to Mr. Simmons, says he was the best friend he had in Princeton, and fitly eulogises him as one noted for his benevolence, patriotism, Christianity, and his goodness of head and heart.

Mr. Collins sent the following obituary notice from a Princeton paper, requesting its publication in THE ELEVATOR, with which we cheerfully comply, as we can from personal knowledge corroborate all therein contained. An intimate acquaintance with the deceased for over forty years enables us to give our testimony of his usefulness, liberality and high Christian character. We might relate many instances of the public spirit and private benevolence of Anthony Simmons, as well as his amiable disposition, goodness of heart, and the high estimation in which he was held in the community where he so long resided, and also in New York, where he was equally as well known.—The obituary does not half express his many virtues, and we can but add our humble tribute to the memory of one whom we so long knew and loved and honored :

Mr. Simmons was born in the City of New York, but while yet a youth he removed to Princeton, N. J., and resided there until his decease. By his correct deportment he gained the respect of the entire community; and by his energy and prompt attention to business he accumulated considerable property. In early life he was a communicant in the first Presbyterian Church in Princeton; and subsequently he became a member of the Witherspoon street church, upon its organization in 1846, as a Presbyterian church for the people of color residing in Princeton and its vicinity.

Of this church he was a liberal and efficient supporter, and an active and influential trustee. Not only was he the largest contributor to the funds of this church, but in his last Will and Testament he bequeathed to the trustees of the church a house and lot for a parsonage. He was favorable to every enterprise designed to elevate the people of his own race, and he gave his countenance to every judicious scheme for their moral and intellectual improvement, and more especially for the Christian education of their children.

His benefactions were not confined to his own class. He stood ready to assist any needy and deserving persons, without regard to race or color.

He was twice married. His first wife was Mary, daughter of Mr. David Vantyne, and his second was Miss Susan Ridley, daughter of Rev. Samuel Ridley, who survives him.

The respect in which he was held by the community in which he resided for nearly fifty years was clearly evinced by the attendance at his funeral, which took place on Saturday, the 8th inst. The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Maclean, President of the College, who preached on the occasion, and prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Hodge, and also by the Rev. Dr. McGill, of the Seminary.

A large number of friends from other places were present at the funeral.