

## ADDRESS BY REV. JOHN McCRON, D. D.

It has been made my duty, in conjunction with the brother who preceded me, to improve the present occasion by remarks concerning our venerable President of the Board of Managers, who has been summoned to the world of spirits. And there is no idolatry in our admiration of the sterling qualities that adorned his life, no more than in the Psalmist's admiration when he sung: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork." For why may we not trace the glory of God, and the power of sanctifying grace, in the life of a Christian man, as well as the wondrous skill and energy of the Almighty in "the heavens as they roll over us in grandeur!" Shall the life of a good man be a volume which the "Index Expurgatorious" of piety forbids us to read, while the literature, which treats of the material creation, is entitled to an honorable place in the libraries of unquestionable orthodoxy? I look upon the biography of a child of God as an epistle of the Almighty to the world, to be "seen and read of all men." And if the heavens, with worlds scattered over their dark ground like glittering dust, declare the glory of Jehovah, much more does the life of a regenerated man show forth not only the glory of His power and wisdom, but also the aboundings of His infinite and everlasting love. *They* preach the Creator to the intellect; *this* recommends Him to the trust and affections of the heart. There is, therefore, no idolatry, but a sacred duty in reviewing the life, and in rehearsing the deeds of a departed child of the Most High.

Familiar with the name of our departed friend in my early youth, on the other side of the Atlantic, it became my delightful privilege in my after life to enjoy his personal acquaintance, and to sit with him in council on the affairs of this institution. Possessed of all that usually pampers the pride of man, he manifested the kindness and simplicity of a child in his attentions to his fellow-men—an element of true and unaffected grandeur, as the character is more clearly seen in the minute details than in the more imposing scenes of practical existence. [Here the Doctor related an anecdote of Mr. Brown's kindness to himself, which, though seemingly