

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF

HEZEKIAH JARVIS, NOAH JARVIS,
GEORGE A. JARVIS AND WILLIAM JARVIS,

FROM

Encyclopædia of Contemporary Biography

OF

NEW YORK.

VOL. V.

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*Compliments of GEORGE A. JARVIS,
491 Henry Street, Brooklyn, New York.*

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Ezekiah Lewis

Age 92 Years 3 Months 17 Days.

JARVIS, HEZEKIAH, son of Samuel, progenitor of the Jarvis family, was born at Norwalk, Connecticut, July 17, 1746, and died in 1838, aged 92 years. The Jarvis family, in the United States and Canada, are of Norman-French extraction, through English sources. The family patronymic has passed through many changes, but none of them violent, beginning with the Latin form, Gervasius, and appearing at various times as follows: "Jarvis, Jervies, Jervoys, Jervoise, Jarveis, Gervaise, Gervays, Gerveis, Garveys, Garvies, Jarvis, Jervies, Jarvie, Jarvice, Gervase, Gervais, Gervasius, Gervys, are supposed to be one and the same name." (See *Patronymica Britannica*). As early as 1180, lived Richard Gervasius, as we are told in a work entitled "The Norman People and their existing Descendants in the British Dominions and the United States of America." About the year 1400, lived one Jean Gervais, and this is the earliest mention known of the name in this form. The following letter from the Most Reverend Marcus Gervais Beresford, Archbishop of Armagh, and Primate of Ireland, who died December 26, 1885, possesses a peculiar interest in this relation. It was written in kindly and courteous response to the gift of a copy of the Jarvis genealogy, sent to him in commemoration of his eighty-fourth birthday:

THE PALACE, ARMAGH, March 31, 1885.
GEO. A. JARVIS, Esq.

DEAR SIR:—I am much obliged to you for your very interesting account of the Jarvis family you have sent me. They are long known in Ireland. In 1291, Gervase was Bishop of Dromore, and there was a Gervasius, Prior of Christ Church, Dublin, in 1170. But I rather think I owe my descent and name to a David Gervais, who escaped from France at the time of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and who soon became Archdeacon of Tarbell. My mother's family, the Bushe's of Kilfane, intermarried with the Gervais family, and my grandfather was Gervais Pasher Bushe, M. P. for Kilkenny, after whom I was called. I venture to inclose my photograph. The mantle over the Episcopal robes is the mantle of the Prelate of the Knights of St. Patrick, which office I hold. Renewing my thanks for your kindness, I remain,

Yours most truly,
MARCUS GERVAIS BERESFORD.

The photograph bore the inscription in his own handwriting, "A shadow that soon passeth away,

and we are gone." And, ere the year had gone, the noble, beautiful face had passed from earth, but the "shadow" is deeply prized by its possessor.



Jarvis.

The oldest coat of arms in use in the family of Jarvis in the United States, is given above: the motto—"Adversis Major pars secundis" is translated "Strong in prosperity, stronger in adversity." The name first appears in the United States, in Virginia, in 1623, and "July 27," 1635, and again in Boston, September 28, 1630. From Massachusetts, the Jarvisses found their way into the Connecticut Valley, and thence to Huntington, Long Island, and the records show that they purchased land there to the extent of territory nearly six miles square, as early as 1653. This land was bought from the Mattinecock Indians, and the records state that the consideration paid for it to the Indians comprised—"six coats, six bottles, six hatchets, six shovels, ten knives, six fathoms of wampum, thirty muxes (brad-awls), and thirty needles." The first purchase of East Hampton embraced 30,720 acres of land, for which the following articles were given in

payment, viz: "Twenty coats, twenty-four looking-glasses, twenty-four hoes, twenty-four hatchets, twenty-four knives, and one hundred maxes." Of the Connecticut Jarvises, Captain Samuel Jarvis was born in Huntington, L. I., but his sons, Abraham and Hezekiah (of whom more anon), were born in Norwalk. But this fact did not prevent Abraham Jarvis from becoming a shining light in Connecticut theology. He graduated at Yale College, and was ordained in England, in 1764, by the Bishop of Carlisle. Soon after, he became rector of Christ Church, Middletown, Conn., and succeeded Bishop Seabury as Bishop of Connecticut. His work was counted of importance in the early history of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Connecticut. He died in 1813. His son, Samuel Farmer Jarvis, D.D., LL.D., who was born in 1786, and died in 1851, was rector of St. James' Church, in New York, in 1813, and Professor of Biblical Criticism in the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church of that city. He was rector of St. Paul's Church in Boston for six years, traveled extensively in Europe, became a noted Oriental scholar, and was professor of Oriental literature in Trinity College, Hartford. He wrote a number of valuable treatises, and accumulated one of the largest and most valuable private libraries of his time, which, after his death, was sold at auction in New York, an occasion which called together a most remarkable gathering of learned men and book-buyers. Jarvises were plentiful in Connecticut at the time of the Revolution, though not all of them were as eminent as those just mentioned; but an interesting story is told about them to this effect: A British armed brig lay off the port of Norwalk, doing blockading duty, and a resident, desirous of "turning an honest penny," conceived the idea of provisioning the enemy, and accordingly took out to the brig a boat-load of fresh vegetables and other desirable provender, being, naturally, received by officers and crew in the most cordial manner. It happened that the vessel was commanded by a young officer named Jarvis, who proved himself to be affable, and not a little curious regarding the town of Norwalk and its inhabitants. He inquired particularly after the Jarvises of Norwalk and its vicinity, and, as the trader was about leaving, he said: "Give my compliments to them, and tell them their cousin, John Jarvis, would be happy to see them and make their acquaintance." This young officer afterward became John, Earl of St. Vincent; and, on his death, was awarded, for his good name, fame and unspotted character, a place in Westminster Abbey. He fought, as Admiral of the fleet, with Nelson, Hood, Collingwood and others, the great naval fight off Cape St. Vincent, for which he received his earldom and a

pension of £3,000 a year. A monument was erected to his memory, in St. Paul's Cathedral, London. The brother of Bishop Abraham Jarvis, Hezekiah Jarvis, the subject of this biography, lived to a patriarchal age, and to see his descendants to the fourth generation. He left behind him a name destined to be held in the highest respect and honor to his remotest posterity. A man of great mental gifts, possessing a remarkable memory, fine discernment, and a notable logical facility and great capacity for reasoning, he was a comprehensive and judicious reader and a profound thinker. Of a pleasant and cheerful disposition, he was a delightful companion, even in extreme old age. In his character he was a sincere and devoted Christian gentleman. So remarkable was his vitality, that one of his grand-daughters, who visited him when she was in her fourteenth year, and expected to meet a bowed and decrepit old man, was startled on seeing him descend lightly and easily by a ladder from a peach-tree, and, basket in hand, come forward to greet her. Her next visit to him occurred when she was a mother, and when she was accompanied by her child—the venerable man's great-great-grandson. It is related of this child, as a touching incident, that the little fellow, on the morning after his arrival, got possession of the old gentleman's spectacles, and placing them on his nose, took his seat in his grandfather's chair, where, holding a newspaper before his face, he seemed thoroughly to appreciate the dignity of the position he had assumed. When the good old man entered the room, and perceived his little imitator, he placed his hands upon the boy's head and invoked a blessing upon him, the language of which, in its fervor and beauty, touched the hearts of those who were present. It was a benediction that ever after seemed to remain with the child as a sacred charm; and when they parted (and this was their final meeting), the old gentleman gave the child a prayer-book, in which he wrote his name. Hezekiah Jarvis was, at this time, in his ninety-second year. Another incident, related by a grandson, exhibits the influence upon him of the piety and simple dignity of this remarkable old man. Visiting his grandfather in his early childhood, he knelt for the first time at evening prayer in the company of his aged kinsman, and was deeply impressed with the fervor and solemnity with which he conducted the family devotions. Again, he experienced the same powerful influence when, at breakfast on the following morning, his grandfather invoked the Divine blessing upon the repast. So vivid and lasting was the impression of these two occasions, that the very words employed by the old man in the evening prayer and the morning grace became the model for his own devotions in his later life. Of the



Your friend
N. Harris.

life and influence in the Church of Hezekiah Jarvis, the late Dr. Mead, his personal friend and pastor, thus speaks: "He was a devoted and honored member of the Church, having been elected to office in the same, April 6, 1781, and continued to be so elected for a period of fifty-four years, thirty of which he was elected, and served as warden." At Easter, 1835, he declined a re-election, on account of his advanced age, and thus ended his long term of usefulness to the Church." Mr. Jarvis was well informed in the history and in the doctrines and usages of the Church, and brought up his family, in accordance with his own convictions, to be thoroughly instructed with regard to it, and attached to its forms and its meaning and obligations. One of his sons, Rev. William Jarvis (see biography in this volume), was a useful and exemplary clergyman, doing honor to the teaching and example of his father. Hezekiah Jarvis was a man of inflexible integrity, his character exhibiting through all his long life a high moral tone, an exalted appreciation of duty and sense of his obligation to his Maker, and consistent understanding of his relation to his fellow men. He was a man who supported through his life a reputation for humility and that Christian amiability which is the noblest ornament of redeemed humanity.

JARVIS, NOAH, Collector of Assessments in the City of New York, under George III., was the son of Hezekiah Jarvis, and was born in Norwalk, Conn., July 22, 1768. He became a resident of New York early in life, and was the trusted friend and adviser of the Patron of Albany, General Stephen Van Rensselaer, whose widely scattered estate in the City of New York, he managed during a period of many years. Mr. Jarvis also had charge of other estates, including those of Governor Morgan Lewis, and the Hon. Robert Kennedy, of England. About the year 1811, Mr. Jarvis received the appointment of Collector of Assessments, and held it during seventeen years. During this period, he collected millions of money, for which he accounted with such accuracy and fidelity, that, on his resignation of his office and final adjustment of his accounts, the Board of Aldermen, through their appointed Committee, resolved to cancel the bonds which had been from time to time given the City by Mr. Jarvis. This resolution stated that—"Having been debited with the whole amount of every assessment placed in his hands, he has paid over and accounted for every cent of the same." This was done to show their perfect satisfaction with his management of public affairs, and as an endorsement of his unwavering in-

tegrity. Mr. Jarvis was remarkable for a sunny, cheerful disposition, which remained with him to the end of his days. Another distinguishing characteristic was his firm and uncompromising patriotism, which, born in him in a boyhood passed among the dark days of the Revolution, impressed its influence upon his whole life. Gifted with fine conversational powers, and a keen sense of wit and humor, he delighted in the playful consideration of topics susceptible of such treatment, and in argument where mild satire could be employed as a weapon. This was particularly his forte in considering the still mooted question of the Revolution, and with his cousin, Colonel Stephen Jarvis, a staunch Royalist, he held many good-natured passages at arms, extending through both their lives, and even to a period when the old burning question had long been buried and forgotten by other men. Colonel Jarvis had served in the King's Army seven years, and had then retired and taken up his residence in Canada. The two were warm friends, but never met or corresponded without some reference to the old Revolutionary struggle, and the relative merits of the two combatants. Their criminations and recriminations were as good-natured, however, as they were earnest, and the laugh around the domestic circle was loud and hearty over the rattling remarks and jokes made by each at the expense of the other. Thus the Colonel always persisted in terming his cousin Noah "a rebel," and when, in 1820, he came to New York and visited Mr. Jarvis, they passed much of their time in satirical allusion to each other's political opinions. As an illustration of their ways with each other, it is related that one morning Mr. Jarvis asked his military cousin if he would not like a morning "bitter." A reply in the affirmative was qualified by the remark that the Colonel seldom indulged at so early an hour, but for this once did not mind gratifying his hospitable cousin. Whereupon Mr. Jarvis led him into the parlor, where, between the windows, was hanging a large framed copy of the "Declaration of Independence." Pointing to this, he said slyly—"There, my Royal Cousin, I think, is a dram *bitter* enough for you." On another occasion, the Colonel, still alive to his darling subject, wrote to his "rebel" cousin a letter, in which he said—"This is the birth-day of my Royal Master, King George the Third," giving the date of the reign of His Majesty, accompanied by some very laudatory remarks with regard to the ruling monarch. Mr. Jarvis delayed his reply to this, until the following 25th of November, when he wrote to the royalist as follows:—"This is the return of that glorious day when the infernal lobster-backs left this City and Country, thank God! never to return." This sort of

badinage continued until 1840, when the good old royalist Colonel "was gathered to his fathers." The following extract from a letter written by a relative of Mr. Jarvis, offers a grateful tribute of respect to a generous and good man, whose benefactions had been recognized and appreciated by their recipient: "I well remember Uncle Noah, whom I have always considered as my second father, the best friend I ever had, and how gratified he was with the Act of the Corporation regarding his bonds. I cherish a grateful remembrance of his partial adoption of me, his starting me in business, his judicious advice, and his continued assistance until I was able to take care of myself." All record of the life of Noah Jarvis bears testimony to his noble qualities of mind and heart. These were conspicuous in his domestic relations, and of course could only be fully realized by an inmate of his family. In that charmed circle he was ever a kind and devoted husband, an affectionate father, the guide and protector of his children, by whom he was beloved and venerated beyond most men. In his public and business relations he was universally beloved and respected as a man, who, through all the changing phases of a busy life, and the fluctuations of trade and commercial interests, never varied from the strictest rules of honesty and integrity. He was a man of fine literary attainments and cultivated taste, and enjoyed the society of men of culture and refinement. And he was a sincere and faithful friend, ever ready to help the deserving. Mr. Jarvis died in 1842, bequeathing to his relatives the richest of all legacies, a good name and an unsullied reputation. Reference should be made here to the sterling honesty and integrity of his son, Charles A. Jarvis, whom, in his business relations, strongly resembled his father. Left sole executor, through the death of the two seniors, he carried out the spirit of his father's will to the letter; never deviating therefrom, through all the fluctuations of his own business, nor touching a dollar through all the commercial crises that were so often trying the merchant and trader. Indeed, by his careful management, investments were more than doubled in amount and value.

JARVIS, GEORGE A., of Brooklyn, son of Stephen and grandson of Hezekiah Jarvis, was born in Cheshire, Conn., on March 9, 1806. His father filled different civil and ecclesiastical offices and positions of trust for years. His mother was Mary Ann Atwater, a modest and devout Christian woman, who watched tenderly over the welfare of her children, impressing upon them the value of honesty and industry, imbuing their minds with a

high respect for religion, and rearing them in the habit of constant attendance on the services of the Episcopal Church. George A. Jarvis received a fair education at the Episcopal academy of his native town, at that time under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Tillotson Bronson. On reaching the age of eighteen, and being desired to express his views with regard to his future career, he preferred a mercantile life to a profession, and accordingly went to New York with his father to establish himself. His outfit comprised ten dollars in his pocket, and a suit of homespun clothes made by his mother. Arrived in the Metropolis, his uncle, Mr. Noah Jarvis, obtained a clerkship for him in a wool store, under engagement to work for the first year for nothing, the second, to be paid two hundred dollars salary, if both parties should be satisfied. Both parties were satisfied, and the second year young Jarvis received his two hundred dollars salary in monthly payments, as stipulated; the third year his employers failed, and the young man received his first blow in the battle of life. During these three years he had made his home with his uncle, Noah Jarvis, and the general depression in business, which followed the year 1826, having made it difficult to obtain another clerkship, he assisted his uncle in making collections, delivering notices—Mr. Noah Jarvis being Collector of Assessments—and soon began to exhibit good business ability, integrity and strict attention to his duties. Mr. Noah Jarvis was not long in gaining confidence in his nephew, and, an opportunity for investment offering, generously loaned him the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, wherewith to commence business on his own account. With this amount for capital, he opened a family grocery store. Being inexperienced in the business, he was not very successful for the first year or two, a fact that enabled him to put in practice the sturdy notions of economy and industry which had been sedulously implanted in him by his father and mother. Fortune eventually smiled upon his efforts, and it was not many years before he was able to repay to his uncle from his savings, not only the amount of the capital he had borrowed, with interest, but also the cost of his board during his period of business struggle and growth. His store was at this time in Grand street, near Broadway. Here, the details of a retail trade were necessarily engrossing, and his arduous efforts to succeed gradually undermined his health, to that extent, that he determined to change to a wholesale grocery business, and on September 1, 1838, he took a partner, and started an establishment in that line, at No. 81 Front street. During these years Mr. Jarvis had a considerable military experience. It is related of him in this connection, that, on October 1, 1832, he "joined



Yrs Very Truly
Geo. A. Jarvis.

the Fifth Company of the National Guards, commanded by Captain William T. Beach, in the Twenty-seventh Regiment of the First Brigade of Artillery, in the City of New York, whereof L. W. Stevens, Esq., is Colonel Commandant." On a very quaint, well-preserved document, bearing date June 4, 1841, it is set forth that he was honorably discharged, "having served faithfully eight years and seven months, as a soldier in the company at present commanded by George Gilfert Waters, Captain, and W. Jones, Colonel Commandant." It may be added in relation to Mr. Jarvis' military career, that he contributed to the new armory of the Seventh Regiment, of whose Veteran Corps he is a member. In 1854, Mr. Jarvis retired from business, with a credit and character untarnished by failure or compromise, after an active life of twenty-six years, many of them years of ruin and disaster to old and established houses. He is now a resident of Brooklyn, having removed thither in 1841, and in 1844, built for himself the house which he still occupies. In the city of his adoption he soon began to identify himself with important interests and public institutions, being one of the incorporators of the Brooklyn Athenæum, and of the South Brooklyn Savings Institution, of which, for thirty-three years, he has been Vice President. Mr. J. S. T. Stranahan, Mr. David B. Baylis and Mr. Jarvis are the only Trustees of the twenty six original incorporators. Mr. Jarvis was offered the Presidency of the Lenox Fire Insurance Company at a salary of \$2,000. The company was crippled, and a few of the Directors added nearly \$40,000 to complete it. From that date, his salary was increased to \$5,000, dividends were paid, and over \$90,000 surplus was added. After holding the trust for twenty-one years, he retired in 1881, and was made the recipient of a handsome engrossed and framed testimonial, which was presented to him by the officers of the Board of Directors. He is a Director or Trustee of the Home Life Insurance Company, The Atlantic Dock Company, The Church Charity Foundation, Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute, Union Trust Company, "General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States," and a member of the New York Chamber of Commerce, the Brooklyn Mercantile Library, and Long Island Historical Society. While Mr. Jarvis has filled important positions in public and private institutions, he has particularly interested himself in the education of young men for the sacred ministry. His munificence in this direction has been comprehensive, judicious and generous. He has given toward the improvements and enlargement of the Church, in his native place, and toward the erection of Bronson Hall, one of the buildings of

the Episcopal Academy, where he received his early education. He gave to the late Bishop George M. Randall, of Colorado, in 1869, the sum of \$5,000 for a boy's school, called "Jarvis Hall," increasing his gifts toward it from time to time, until they amounted to over \$14,000. To this he added, in 1870, \$10,000, to be designated the "Jarvis Hall Endowment Fund," to be invested, and when it amounted to \$20,000, the interest might be used for the theological education of young men, for those needing assistance. This fund was reported in April, 1885, at over \$78,000. To the Berkeley Divinity School, Middletown, Conn., Mr. Jarvis gave, in 1878, \$13,000 for scholarships, while his assistance to young men in enabling them to prosecute their theological education has been frequent and wisely bestowed. In 1880, arrangements were made for a yearly course of lectures before the students of the General Theological Seminary, to be called the "Paddock Lectures," and for this purpose Mr. Jarvis gave values amounting to over \$10,000. Six courses of lectures have been delivered by the following Bishops and Clergymen: Right Rev. John Williams, D.D. LL.D., Rev. William D. Wilson, D.D. LL.D., Right Rev. A. N. Littlejohn, D.D. LL.D., Right Rev. Henry C. Lay, D.D. LL.D., Rev. W. H. Platt, D.D. LL.D., and Rev. John H. Egar, D.D. The Church Charity Foundation, has been the recipient on the part of Mr. Jarvis of the sum of \$15,000, as an endowment to be divided between the Hospital, Old Ladies Home, and the Orphan House. Recently he has given \$40,000 to the "General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States," for a building, now being erected on Ninth Avenue, between Twentieth and Twenty-first streets, and to be called, as designated by the Trustees, "Jarvis Hall." Mr. Jarvis has also given \$30,000 for the erection of a much needed building for "Trinity College," Hartford, Conn., which from the parchment of acceptance by the Trustees, it has been named "Jarvis Hall of Science." This sketch of a public spirited and patriotic citizen would be incomplete without due reference to the interest which he took in the War for the Union. In the summer of 1863, Horatio Seymour, Governor of the State of New York, appointed a "War Fund Committee," composed of about one hundred and thirty eminent citizens, "to raise regiments of volunteers, to promote the objects of the Sanitary Commission, to assist the sick and the wounded, and to aid discharged soldiers, and the families of deceased soldiers and sailors in procuring the pay or pensions to which they may be entitled; to aid the United States Sanitary Commission, and to assist the Commissioners in their Philanthropic work, and generally, to use their efforts and influ-

ence in aiding the Government to suppress the rebellion." Among the members of this important body were Mr. J. S. T. Stranahan, Mr. A. A. Low, Mr. B. D. Silliman, Mr. S. B. Chittenden, Mr. George A. Jarvis, etc. Through his connection with this noble, patriotic and public spirited organization, Mr. Jarvis was brought into direct relation with the great conflict, of which every phase could not but be of the deepest interest to his thoughtful and far-reaching intelligence. But even in this connection the religious bent of his mind showed itself. In the summer of 1863, the son and daughter of Mr. Jarvis took an extended Western trip, and among the many interesting impressions received during their pleasant journey, there was one in particular that proved both strong and lasting. This was caused by the earnest patriotism evinced in the prayers for the Union and its brave defenders, which they found had been prepared by the Bishop of each diocese in which they attended Divine service during their wanderings. When the Brooklyn Sanitary Fair was organized, in 1864, Miss Jarvis wrote to each Bishop of the loyal dioceses, asking for an autograph copy of his special prayers for the Country; and, after obtaining these valuable papers, Mr. Jarvis had them facsimiled by a lithographic process, and, accompanied by a preface by the Rev. Dr. Alexander Vinton, bound together in a handsome volume, under the title of—"The Church Loyal and True." These books were disposed of as follows:—

50 copies given to the Brooklyn Sanitary Fair, sold for	\$150.00
54 copies given to the New York Fair, sold for	102.00
30 copies given to the Boston Sailor's Home, sold for	00.00
6 copies given to the Church Charity Foundation, sold for	18.00
Paid George T. Strong, Treasurer U. S. Sanitary Commission, price of 33 copies	100.00
Paid "Industrial School Association," Brooklyn, for Soldiers' Children, the price of 75 copies	225.00
The original manuscripts were appropriately bound, and sold, for the benefit of the Brooklyn Sanitary Fair, to Mr. John D. Wolfe, for	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$895.00

Mr. Wolfe afterward presented the original MSS. above mentioned to the library of the Philadelphia Divinity School; thus, although the Clergy could not preach "War sermons," the loyalty and patriotism of the Church, as a body, is historically perpetuated in these volumes of the prayers for the Right, which ascended to God from every Episcopal congregation within the loyal lines. During the

war, in 1862, Admiral Andrew Hull Foote returned North for a period of rest, and to recruit from severe injuries which he had received while at Fort Donelson. A pleasant surprise awaited him of an elegant and costly sword and epaulets, given by a few Brooklyn friends, at the instigation of Mr. Jarvis. The presentation took place Sept. 15, 1862, in the Brooklyn Athenæum, in the presence of Commandant Paulding, and many distinguished naval officers, and of a brilliant assembly of citizens. Cheer after cheer greeted the noble sailor, as the audience arose to welcome him. Mr. J. S. T. Stranahan, President of the "War Fund Committee," presented the gifts with an eloquent address. To which the admiral (although on crutches and quite feeble), made a stirring and patriotic reply. At the close of his speech, as he raised the sword and wielding it, said: "I will draw this sword in defense of the Union and the Constitution and the Country," the spell-bound audience broke forth in demonstrations of applause. This sword is now in the New Haven Athenæum. In the summer of 1865 the 20th Regiment of Connecticut Volunteers, which had returned from accompanying General Sherman on his celebrated "March to the Sea," arrived at the Battery. Mr. Jarvis was present, and met some of the "boys" from his native town of Cheshire, Conn., and, after having had a pleasant chat with them, he wrote to the fathers of some of the soldiers who had perished on the field of battle, or died in hospital of their wounds, and suggested that they should erect a monument to these Martyrs on the village "Green" of that town, offering to give one thousand dollars to start the necessary subscription. The idea was carried out successfully, and a granite monument was so erected and duly unveiled, July 4, 1866. Twenty-nine names of the noble "boys" who thus perished, were cut upon three sides of the column; on the fourth side was the inscription—"Erected, 1866, to perpetuate the memory of those who lost their lives in the War of the Rebellion;" on the base, was inscribed in prominent letters, the names of "Lincoln" and "Foote." At the unveiling, where a large gathering was present, letters were read from many distinguished personages, including Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Gen. Grant, Gen. Sherman, Gen. Slocum, and others. It will thus be seen that the interest of Mr. Jarvis in the war was mainly in the direction of preserving the memories of those who worthily participated in it. This taste for the protection and perpetuation of records of the past was also shown by him in 1879, when he prepared, with great labor and research, a Genealogy of the Jarvis family, a volume of about 400 pp., and which contained more than 1600 names. Of this work, as



Very truly & affecy Yours,

William Jarvis

many as 500 copies found a ready sale. As the recorded history of the life and benefactions of a higher minded, conscientious American, possessed of a peculiarly benevolent and generous nature, this sketch should not be without value as perpetuating an illustrious example. A man of staunch and scrupulous integrity, vigorous and accurate intelligence, and kindly and charitable impulses, the name of George A. Jarvis will long remain conspicuous among the list of our public-spirited citizens. Mr. Jarvis has been three times married. His first wife was Catharine, daughter of Mr. Samuel Jarvis, of New York, a lady endowed with many charms of person and character, who died suddenly within a year after their marriage. His second wife was Mary, the only daughter of Mr. Cornelius McLean, of New York. "To know her was to love her," a perfect exemplification of that charity which is "kind in thought, word, and deed," qualities that rendered her an affectionate mother and steadfast friend. The third wife of Mr. Jarvis was Maria, the daughter of the late Mr. Lewis Jenkins, of Buffalo, and, like himself and his former companions, is a communicant of the Episcopal Church, and is of a cheerful, sympathetic disposition, happy in all of her domestic relations, and earnest and active in Church and benevolent work.

JARVIS, REV. WILLIAM, was born at Norwalk, Connecticut, on February 29, 1796, and was the thirteenth and youngest child of Mr. Hezekiah Jarvis by his second wife, Sarah Whitney. Having been born in leap year, and the odd day being unnecessary to complete the century, Mr. Jarvis was eight years old before he had a birthday, nor had he but seventeen in all. He entered into eternal rest on October 3, 1871. His mother was a daughter of Mr. Whitney, of Darien, and he lived to be one hundred years, three months, and three days old, and his wife was over ninety years at the time of her death. Some interesting facts in regard to Mrs. Whitney, the mother of Mrs. Jarvis, were related by her only surviving grandchild, since deceased at a very advanced age. After she had passed her eightieth year, her eyesight returned to her as clear and perfect as in youth. From reading and research she became an Episcopalian when in middle life, and was ever afterward a devoted adherent of the Church. The Rev. Mr. Mather, the Congregational clergyman, always treated her with the greatest kindness and respect, and often loaned her his horse to ride to Stamford, a distance of five miles, to enjoy the Church services, when her husband, who had no

sympathy with her in this respect, refused her his. Often, when no other way offered, she would start to walk the distance, feeling sure, that when following the dictates of duty, the Lord would provide a way; and so it frequently proved, for some kind neighbor or friendly traveler would assist her to the place in which her soul delighted. Mr. Jarvis was a nephew of Bishop Jarvis, and the Bishop's only son, Rev. Dr. Samuel F. Jarvis, offered to fit his young cousin William for college, and he was for some time a member of the Doctor's family. Thus natural affection was deepened, and the kind interest shown him in early life was more than requited in the love, sympathy and aid which he gave to Doctor Jarvis in after years, when under great sorrow and embarrassment. Mr. Jarvis was graduated at Union College, N. Y., and afterward pursued his theological studies at New Haven, Conn. In August, 1822, he was ordained Deacon at Norwalk, and in November of the year following, was made priest at East Haddam, at which place, and Hebron, Mr. Jarvis ministered for some time. Both these ordinations were by Bishop Brownell. While at Hebron he won the warm friendship of Dr. Peters, who was also Governor of the State, and this friendship continued until death separated them many years later. In December, 1825, Mr. Jarvis was married by Bishop Brownell to Miss Elizabeth Miller Hart, eldest daughter of Major Richard W. and Mrs. Elizabeth Hart, and about two years after he removed with his family to Portland, then Chatham, Conn. This marriage was one of great happiness, though they were called to share many sore bereavements; but the strong Christian faith and trust, which was their guide and support, enabled them to accept all as from the loving hand of a Father. An attack of severe bronchitis a few years later terminated his rectorship of Trinity Church, and obliged him to retire permanently from any public speaking. For months he could only speak in a whisper, and even after recovering his voice in conversation, it broke down upon every attempt to use it in reading aloud. In 1832 the family residence was sold, and Mr. Jarvis removed to Middletown. After the marriage of his eldest daughter to Col. Samuel Colt, of Hartford, he made that city his home, and for some years he was identified with business in New York City. One who well knew him, thus wrote of him: "As a preacher, Mr. Jarvis was full of fervor and impressiveness. His delivery was remarkably good and his voice earnest and powerful. As a pastor, he was distinguished for fidelity and devotion. But for thirty and five years his voice ceased to be heard in the pulpit. It pleased God that thus long he should set forth His true and lively word only by his life. It also pleased God to

try his faith and patience to the last. He became a great sufferer, yet bore his physical agony with unyielding constancy and submission to the will of his Heavenly Father. Fully conscious that the release he longed for was near, he bade wife and children and kindred farewell, commending them to the care of the Saviour he had trusted, with a faith triumphant even unto death. It was a touching sight to the writer of this, as his eye left gazing upon features so calm in the exquisite repose of the Christian death, to perceive in his folded hands a bunch of wheat. He was indeed full ripe unto the harvest; but the sight instantly recalled to mind the one hundred and twenty-sixth psalm, in connection with his long interrupted ministry: 'He that now goeth on his way weeping and beareth good seed, shall doubtless come again with joy and bring his sheaves with him.'