Hubbard, Fordyce Mitchell [1]

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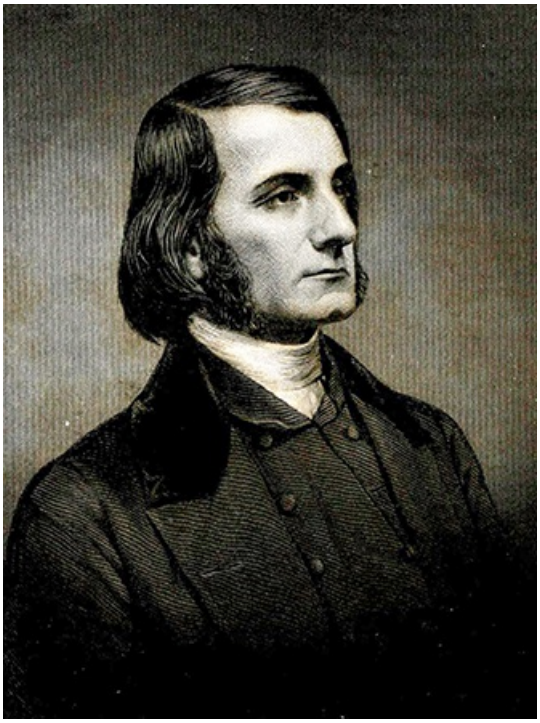
by Bonnie L. Wilson, 1988

13 Jan. 1809–1 Sept. 1888



An 1859 engraving of Reverend Fordyce Mitchell Hubbard. Image from Archive.org.

[2]Fordyce Mitchell Hubbard, Episcopal [3]clergyman and educator, was born in Cummington, Mass., the son of Roswell and Sarah Mitchell Hubbard. In 1829 he was graduated from Williams College, in Massachusetts, where he remained for several years as a tutor. He studied law and for a time was associated with the Round Hill School in Northampton. Later he taught Latin at a classical school in Boston and in 1836 published an edition of *Poems of Catullus* [4] for the use of the school. While residing in Boston he married Martha Henshaw Bates, [5] the daughter of a U.S. senator from Massachusetts.

In November 1842, having been ordained an Episcopal priest, Hubbard became rector of Christ Church in New Bern, N.C. He remained there until 1847, when he was appointed principal of Trinity School near Raleigh [6]. A year later he was elected to the chair of Latin Languages and Literature at The University of North Carolina [7], a position he held through 1868. While in Chapel Hill, he served as rector of the Chapel of the Cross in 1852 and again in 1868.

In 1848 his life of William R. Davie [8]was published as a volume in Jared Sparks's *Library of American Biography*. Hubbard also revised the *North Carolina Reader* [9] by Calvin H. Wiley [10]; his editions of Reader No. I appeared in 1855 and 1856 and of No. II in 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, and 1873. In addition, Hubbard contributed to the *University of North Carolina Magazine*, the *North Carolina Journal of Education* [11], the *Southern Literary Messenger*, and the *North American Review*. In 1860 he received an honorary D.D. degree from Columbia College in New York and Trinity College in Connecticut.

Hubbard left The University of North Carolina in 1869 to become principal of St. John's School in Manlius, N.Y., and to serve as rector of Christ Church there. He retired to Raleigh in 1881, but remained active in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina until his death. His wife and his only child, a daughter, both predeceased him in 1870.

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Fordyce Hubbard Argo, "An Ante-Bellum Professor [12]" (1946. a typescript in the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill).

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Field, David D. *Brief memoirs of the members of the class graduated at Yale College in September, 1802*. s.n., 1863. 65. http://books.google.com/books?id=ZT1AAAAAIAAJ&pg=PA65#v=onepage&q&f=false [5] (accessed June 12, 2013).

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"The Rev. F. M. Hubbard. Professor of the Latin Language and Literature in the University of North Carolina." *North Carolina University Magazine* 9, no. 3 (October 1859). Frontispiece. https://archive.org/stream/northcarolinauni18591860#page/n143/mode/2up [15] (accessed June 12, 2013).

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