

Transcribed from *Franklin and Marshall College Obituary Record Vol. 1-No. 1*
Published in Lancaster, PA. 1897
Pages 50-52

Rev. Mortimer Lawrence Shuford, A. M., was born in Rutherford county, N. C., January 24, 1818, and died in Washington City, D. C., November 7, 1883. His parents were Martin P. and Rhoda (Ramsaur) Shuford. In the war against the Seminole Indians he served for a short time as adjutant of a regiment recruited in his neighborhood.

Rev. Shuford entered the Preparatory Department of Marshall College in January, 1838, and in 1839 the Freshman class of College, taking the four years course. During his college days he was an honored member of the Goethean Literary Society and was known as a pleasing and forcible speaker. He graduated from the Theological Seminary in 1844, having taken some of his theological studies while a student in college. He received the degree of A. M. from his Alma Mater. July 11, 1844, he was married to Lucinda Catherine Sohn, of Mercersburg, Pa. Of seven children born to them only two are now living, L. S. Shuford and Mrs. Annie R. Welck, both of whom reside in Hagerstown, Md.

At a meeting of the Virginia Classis of the Reformed Church, in 1844, he was examined and licensed, and at the same time or soon afterwards he was ordained to the holy ministry. His first charge was at Lovettsville, Loudoun county, Va., where he lived five years. In November, 1849, he accepted a call to the Glade charge in Frederick county, Md., where he labored faithfully until 1857, when he accepted a call to the Mt. Moriah charge in Washington county, Md. He resided at Sharpsburg during this pastorate and suffered much from the ravages of civil war. In 1863 he became pastor of the Boonsboro, Washington county, Md., charge, where he labored acceptably until 1867, when he accepted a call to Winchester, Va., where he served six years. In 1873 he was called to Burkittsville, Frederick county, Md., which was his last charge. Here he lived and labored for about eleven years. In October, 1883, he attended a meeting of the Potomac Synod of the Reformed Church at Newton, N. C., and on his return was taken sick and only lived to reach the city of Washington. His body was taken to Burkittsville, and in the graveyard adjoining the church in which he so faithfully labored for so many years he was buried.

His ministerial work as expressed in figures is as follows: Baptisms, 970; confirmations, 371; funeral services, 413; marriages, 228. He was three times honored by being elected president of classis, once by the Virginia Classis, in 1870, and twice by the Maryland Classis, in 1863 and 1876. At the meeting of the Potomac Synod at Newton, in 1883, he was chosen vice-president.