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Rev. Samuel Philips, A.M., the son of Thomas and Mary Ann (Eichelberger) Philips, was born near Hagerstown, Md., June 14, 1823. He prepared for college at the Hagerstown Academy and entered the Sophomore class in 1844, graduating in 1847. He was a member of the Diagnothian Literary Society, and helped build the Diagnothian Hall, by securing subscriptions from friends during vacation. He graduated from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, and received the degree of A. M. in course in 1850.

His first charge was at Burkittsville, Md., where he was ordained in 1848. From there he went to Dayton, Ohio, thence to Jefferson, Md., Chambersburg, Carlisle and Allentown, Pa., and to the Aisquith Street church, Baltimore, Md.

In 1871 he left the Reformed Church for the Presbyterian Church. In the church of his adoption he served the following charges: Upper Roxborough, 1871-78; Leverington Ave., Roxborough, Philadelphia, 1878-80; supplied Dauphin Street mission, Philadelphia, 1881. He then removed to Doe Run, Chester county, Pa., where he was stricken with paralysis in the summer of 1885.

While a minister in the Reformed Church he contributed to the Reformed Church Messenger, and wrote the following books: Gethsemane and the Cross, 1851; The Christian Home, 1859; The Voice of Blood, 1864. He gave private classical instructions in almost every town in which he had a charge.

He was a volunteer in the late Civil War, having formed a company almost entirely composed of men in his own church at Carlisle. He entered the service as sergeant major of Company G, 160th Reg. Pa. Vols., October 3, 1862; was made 1st lieutenant, July 22, 1864, and mustered out with his company, June 21, 1865.

He was married, October 12, 1848, to Miss Rebecca Kay, of Bedford, Pa. They had ten children, four of whom are living: Mrs. Charles L. Hamilton; Mrs. E. E. Hamilton; Rev. James Kay Philips, who graduated from Auburn Theological Seminary in 1887, and is now literary editor of Evening Bulletin, Philadelphia; and Melville Philips, literary editor of The Press, Philadelphia.

Rev. Samuel Philips died in Germantown, Philadelphia, September 1, 1892.