

Northern Kentucky
Views presents . . .

Reverend John Howell Condit

CONDIT, REV. JOHN HOWELL, Presbyterian Clergyman, was born September 15, 1806, in Hanover, New Jersey. His father was a Presbyterian minister, his only sister married a minister, and three of his four brothers were active ministers of the Gospel. Thus, belonging to a family of clergymen, he was trained from infancy in the religion of his ancestors, and, at the age of eighteen, began his preparation for the Gospel ministry. He commenced his literary course at Woodbridge Academy, and graduated at Princeton College, 1831. He graduated at Princeton Theological Seminary, in 1835, and was licensed to preach. In that year, he started, with his wife, to seek a home in the West, designing, first, to visit Terre Haute, Indiana, where his only brother, engaged in secular business, resided. On their way down the Ohio, they stopped off the boat to spend the Sabbath at Bethesda Church, now Ashland, Kentucky. He preached on the Sabbath, and was invited to become the pastor of that Church. He remained there over four years, dividing his labors between that and the Greenup Union, twenty miles below. This labor proved to be too great for his physical strength, and, together with the weakness of the Church at that time, he was compelled to seek another field. In April, 1840, he accepted the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church at Washington, Mason County, and that became the field of his life-work. He remained in charge of the Church at Washington until June, 1868. When the difficulties that unhappily and unfortunately divided the Church in Kentucky began, though greatly troubled by the strife, and foreseeing the final result, he firmly took his stand with Williams was eminently a Christian, and, although devoted to the forms and doctrines of the Disciples' Church, there was no place in his heart for the narrowness of bigotry and intolerance. He died, universally regretted and esteemed, and left the world better for his having lived in it.