

ENCYCLOPÆDIA
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

INCLUDING THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN ASSEMBLIES.

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AND OTHER EMINENT MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH.

Including a Description of the Historic Decorations of the Pan Presbyterian Council of 1880,

By REV. HENRY C. McCOOK, D. D., LL. D.

Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces, that ye may tell it to the generation following—PSALM XLVIII, 12, 13.

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include several other of the Southern States. In this agency he was remarkably successful. On resigning it, he supplied vacancies for a few years, in Chesterfield county, and in the vicinity of Petersburg. He was installed pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Winchester, in February 1839. In the Spring of 1846 he resigned this charge, and accepted an Agency for the Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church. He died February 24th, 1849, in all the serenity of Christian faith and hope, passing to his reward. Dr. Atkinson was a man of good talents, and possessed an unusual degree of common sense. His piety was remarkably humble, cheerful and gentle. Above most he was unselfish. He did not love to think or speak of himself. As a preacher, he was clear, judicious, instructive, and practical—always animated, never overwhelming. He was a very useful member of Church Courts, always studying the things which make for peace, as well as those which promote truth and order. He possessed peculiar qualifications as a presiding officer in deliberative assemblies.

Atwater, Lyman H., D. D., LL. D., was born February 23d, 1813, at Cedar Hill, then a part of the town of Hamden, since incorporated into the city of New Haven, Conn. He was descended from genuine Puritan stock—his parents on both sides having for their ancestors the original settlers of New Haven, who emigrated from England. At an early age Professor Atwater gave signs of the intellectual vigor evinced in his later years. He began the study of Latin in 1825, at the age of twelve, entered Yale College in 1827, and was graduated in 1831, at the age of eighteen, with the second honor in a class of eighty-one members. He spent the year following his graduation, as head of the classical department of Mount Hope Institute, Baltimore. He then returned to New Haven and entered the Yale Theological Seminary, of which Dr. Nathaniel W. Taylor, his pastor in infancy and boyhood, was the distinguished head. At the end of his first year in the seminary he became tutor of mathematics in Yale College, in which office he continued for nearly two years, pursuing meanwhile his studies in theology. He was licensed to preach, by the Association of New Haven West, in May, 1834, and in the Summer of 1835 left the tutorship to accept a call to the pastorate of the First Church of Fairfield, Conn., one of the oldest, and at that time one of the most prominent in that State, over which he was installed July 29th, 1835, at the age of twenty-two. In this responsible charge he continued between nineteen and twenty years.

In 1861 he was appointed to the Lectureship Extraordinary in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, N. J., on the Connection between Revealed Religion and Metaphysical Science, for the five years for which it was established.

The General Assembly (O. S.), in 1869, made him a member of the joint committee which perfected the

basis of union upon which the Old and New School branches of the Presbyterian Church were re-united. Dr. Atwater was charged by the Board of Trustees with the duties of administration *ad interim* between the retirement of Dr. John Maclean from the Presidency of the College, in June, 1863, and the inauguration of Dr. McCosh, toward the close of the same year. On his assumption of office, by mutual consent, the departments of Psychology and the History of Philosophy were transferred from Dr. Atwater to Dr. McCosh, while the department of Economics and Politics was given to Dr. Atwater. Thus, since 1869 he was Professor of Logic, Metaphysics, Ethics, Economics and Political Science. Dr. Atwater died at his home, in Princeton, February 17, 1883. Since 1876 he had been Vice-president of the board of trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary. For many years he was an associate editor and valuable contributor to the *Princeton Review*. He wrote largely for periodicals, and was the author of a "Manual of Elementary Logic," for the class-room.

Auburn, New York, First Presbyterian Church. This church has existed seventy-two years. It was the outgrowth of the pastorate of the Rev. David Higgins with the Church of Aurelius, already of some years' standing, and which included Auburn within its bounds. Here also its founder resided for the larger part of his ministry, with the mother church located more centrally, as the town was then constituted. He was a man of cultured gifts, sound and distinctive in his doctrinal views, with New England ideas and methods, which had much to do in determining, at its critical period, the character of both the church and the town. As the earliest settled minister on the ground, he attracted to his support the best elements of the thriving settlement, irrespective of religious preferences, and drew around him the men of enterprise and foresight who believed in the church and the school as essential to the best type of morals and manners. Every movement for the spiritual and social improvement of the place, was conceived and carried out in a generous way.

Since that time, the church has had four pastorates. The first, that of the Rev. Hezekiah N. Woodruff, which continued but three years, synchronizes the second war with Great Britain, the distracting influences of which were alike unfavorable to commerce, to morals and religion. The membership of the church made slow increase. Mr. Woodruff, who was a worthy pastor, and an excellent preacher, was a man of cultured habit, of positive convictions, and sincere devotion to his work. In consequence of a local excitement, in which he became involved, and which divided the village and threatened the peace of the church, he resigned his charge. During his brief and disturbed ministry, the first church edifice, a model of architectural beauty, and for half a century a centre of spiritual life and power, was begun