

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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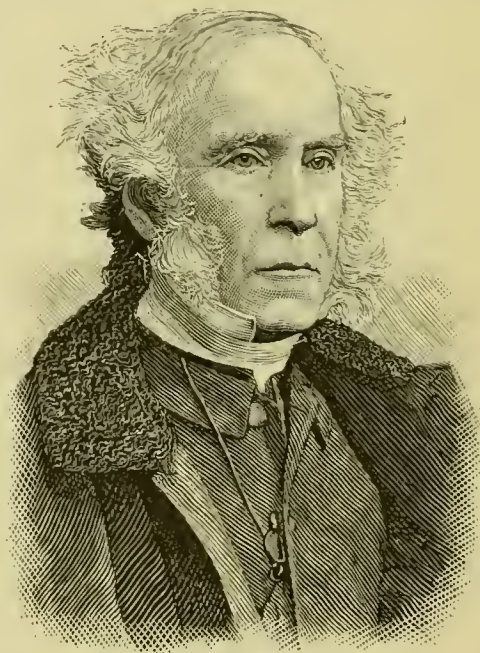
the time a model Sunday-school book. Just before this he had translated John Gerhard's Sacred Meditations. "The Holy Child" was the commencement of a series of books that flowed from Mr. Blackburn's pen. During the next ten years he wrote twenty-six volumes, chiefly for Sunday Schools, but of a high order, and which met with a large sale. Many of these were historical biographies, in which the religious and political events of the stirring days of the Reformation period were interwoven with the individual life biographically portrayed. In order to equip himself the more completely for this kind of composition, in 1862 he spent several months in Europe, visiting the places most distinguished in the Reformation, and collecting books not obtainable in this country which illustrated that period. During this time he wrote articles for Magazines, Reviews and Cyclopedias, mostly of an historical character.

In 1864 Mr. Blackburn took charge of the Fourth Presbyterian Church, Trenton, N. J. and during the four years of his pastorate the church increased in number, and through his exertions a burdensome debt was removed. In 1868 he was elected Professor of Church History in the Theological Seminary of the Northwest, at Chicago, which position he occupied with great acceptance until 1881, when he accepted a call to the Central Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, his present field of labor. For two years of his Professorship, 1869-71, Dr. Blackburn was stated supply of the Fullerton Avenue Presbyterian Church, Chicago. In 1879 he published the "History of the Christian Church from its Origin to the Present Time," a work which has been commended in the highest terms by the religious press of all denominations. Each year of his pastorate in Cincinnati he has delivered a course of lectures on historical or religious subjects. For ten years he has lectured at Sunday-school Institutes and Assemblies. He is yet in the prime of life, enjoying excellent health, to which his genial manners and humorous disposition contribute.

**Blackwood, William, D.D., LL.D.**, was born in the parish of Dromara, in the county of Down, Ireland, and educated in Lisburn and Dublin. He graduated in the Royal College, Belfast, where he also passed through a full course of theology. In his undergraduate course he was distinguished in the departments of Logic, Rhetoric and Belles Lettres, and also in Metaphysics and Ethics, as well in Mathematics, in each of which he was honored with premiums for excellence. After being licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Dromore, he was called to the pastorate of the church of Holywood, near Belfast, where he succeeded in erecting a very tasteful and commodious church edifice. His next field of labor was Newcastle on Tyne, the commercial capital of the north of England, where he undertook the organization of a new church, and also succeeded in having built one of the most perfect church edifices in the

bounds of the Church. In recognition of his services he was placed in the Moderator's chair in the highest Court of the English Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Blackwood, in 1850, became pastor of the Ninth Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, in which relation he still continues, beloved by his people and blessed in his ministry. After the sudden decease of the Rev. Richard Webster, during his preparation of the "History of the Presbyterian Church in America," Dr. Blackwood was induced to take charge of the papers, which had been left in a state of confusion, and arrange and edit them. He has written much for magazines and other journals. His most extensive literary work is a very large and elaborate encyclopaedia, which is historical, theological, collegiate, antiquarian, architectural and biblical in its character, and indicates both research and erudition.



WILLIAM BLACKWOOD, D.D., LL.D.

Dr. Blackwood has a fine clerical appearance, is dignified in his manner, and is of a very courteous, genial and gentlemanly spirit. Though he never fails to indulge his strong literary tastes, he is a hard worker in his profession, doing ample justice to his large congregation, both in pulpit ministrations and pastoral visitation. His sermons are solid, Scriptural, sound, bearing the impress of his vigorous intellect and affectionate heart. As a Presbyter he is faithful in the discharge of duty, and is always listened to by his brethren with the attention to which he is entitled by his extensive learning, mature experience and excellent character. In the community in which he has spent the third of a century as a custodian of the high interests of the gospel, he has wielded a

potent influence for good, and achieved a reputation such as only real worth can gain.

**Blain, Rev. Daniel**, was born in Cumberland county, Va., November 20th, 1838. He is the eldest son of the Rev. Samuel Blain and Susan J. (Harrison) Blain. He graduated, in 1858, at Washington College, Va. (now Washington and Lee University). He pursued his theological studies at Union Seminary, Va., and was licensed by Lexington Presbytery, September 22d, 1866. November 29th, 1867, he was ordained to the ministry and installed pastor of Collyerstown Church, whence he was called to his present pastorate at Christiansburg, Va., and there installed, October 1st, 1871. Mr. Blain is a man of fine physique and talents, a close student, impressive as a pulpit orator, and wields a ready and graceful pen. He is the author of a history of the Christiansburg Church, containing many interesting facts as to early Presbyterianism in Southwest Virginia, and editor of the *Church News*, a Presbyterian monthly.

**Blain, Rev. Daniel**, was born in South Carolina, Abbeville District, in 1773, of the Scotch-Irish race. He passed his early life on the frontiers, in the American Revolution. Like Andrew Jackson and a multitude of Scotch-Irish boys in North and South Carolina, who, in mature years, rose to eminence and worth, he was familiar with the privations and distresses, and battles and massacres of the famous campaigns of the Southern war. When about twenty years of age he repaired to Liberty Hall, near Lexington, Va., and there completed his academic and theological course of study, in preparation for the ministry. He was licensed by Lexington Presbytery about the year 1796. He engaged with Mr. Baxter in teaching the New London Academy at Bedford, and removed with him to Lexington, being appointed Professor in the Academy. He was a member of the committee appointed by the Synod, in 1803, to establish a religious periodical if the way was clear, and under whose direction the first number of *The Virginia Religious Magazine* was issued, October, 1804. To that periodical he contributed a number of valuable articles. Mr. Blain was called from earth in the meridian of life, from increasing usefulness and a young family, March 19th, 1814. President Baxter loved him as his amiable professor and co-laborer, and his brethren called him "the amiable Mr. Blain." "Had the church no such lovely characters as Daniel Blain," says Dr. Foote, "her beauty would be marred, and her hands loosed."

**Blair, Andrew**, son of William and Sarah (Holmes) Blair, children of William Blair, Sen'r, and Andrew Holmes, Sen'r, was born at Carlisle, Pa., April 10th, 1789, and there died, most peacefully and hopefully, July 21st, 1861, in his 73d year. He had been ordained a ruling elder in the First Presbyterian Church of his native place, December 25th, 1825, and when the Second Church was organized,

January 12th, 1833, he was one of the first three elders therein elected and installed. This office he most faithfully and acceptably filled until his death, and throughout this time had taken a very active and leading part in the growth and prosperity of the church. He was also fully identified with the cause of public education in Carlisle, and had been President of the Board of School Directors for twenty-five years previous to his death. Though a very diligent and systematic business man—for his family and the Church and the public—yet he was a reading and reflecting man, and few laymen were more familiar with the Bible and better acquainted with the distinctive doctrines and principles of our Church than Mr. Blair. In understanding, appreciating and discharging the several duties of his responsible position, he was a model



ANDREW BLAIR.

elder. In the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, he was a useful and honored member.

The Rev. Dr. A. T. McGill, who had been the excellent pastor of the Second Church, thus writes of him: "Andrew Blair was always a prince among the elders of the Church; he could 'rule well' and he was singularly 'apt to teach.' His pastor could always depend on him to visit the sick, to conduct the meetings for prayer, Bible-class teaching, and superintendency of the Sabbath school. He was an intellectual man of no ordinary power, and yet that sturdy mind was balanced admirably with fine emotions of tenderness, love and generosity. The people always loved him and revered him as an oracle. All honor to the memory of Andrew Blair! To 'do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with his God,'