

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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of occasional sermons, orations and poems. Of the latter were a geography in verse, which the students committed to memory, and a metrical version of the Psalms, published in 1812.

Davies, David Owen, D. D., was born in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, October 10th, 1834, the youngest child of Thomas and Elizabeth (Owen) Davies. He was educated in Princeton College and Theological Seminary, and stood conspicuously high in the classes of 1856 to 1859. He was licensed in 1859 and ordained in 1860. He began his ministry in the "Old Duncan Church," which had enjoyed the preaching of the lamented Dr. Stuart Robinson. He next was called to preach in the Central Church, St. Louis, Mo., during the absence of the late Rev. S. P. Anderson, D. D. on an extensive European tour. He became pastor of the Fifth Street Presbyterian Church of Cincinnati, Ohio in 1860, and so continued until 1863. In the year 1863 he was called to the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church in Paris, Kentucky. From Paris, in 1868, he was called to the pastorate of the Church at Clarksville, Tennessee, where he continued his labors, with great success, until 1871. In that year he was called to the church in Henderson, Kentucky, of which he is now the pastor, and greatly beloved by his people, and highly esteemed by the whole community.

As a preacher Dr. Davies presents the truths of Scripture with great clearness and force. He blends vigorous logic with strong emotion. His sermons abound with marked originality and freshness, and with his clear enunciation he never fails to impress his audience. As a Presbyter, he is faithful and influential, so high toned and courteous as to command not only the respect, but the admiration of those who differ with him. As a writer he is clear, terse, logical, as many of his articles in the reviews and periodicals of our Church show. He is a cultured gentleman, a ripe scholar, an earnest Christian, and his labors have been greatly blessed.

Davies, Rev. Samuel, D. D., was born near Summit Bridge, in the Welsh Tract, in New Castle county, Delaware, November 3d, 1723. He was an only son. His mother, an eminent Christian, had earnestly besought him of heaven, and believing him to be given in answer to prayer, she named him Samuel. After being taught by his mother to read, at the age of ten he was sent to a school at some distance from home, and continued in it two years. Having experienced a change of heart, and made a profession of religion at the age of fifteen, with the view of entering the ministry, he engaged in literary and theological pursuits under the Rev. Samuel Blair. He was licensed by New Castle Presbytery, July 30th, 1746, at the age of twenty-three, and ordained an evangelist, February 19th, 1747.

Mr. Davies' fervent zeal, undissembled piety, popular talents and engaging methods of address soon excited general admiration. He went to Hanover,

Va., in April, 1747, and soon obtained of the General Court a license to officiate in four meeting-houses. After preaching assiduously for some time, and not without effect, he returned from Virginia, though earnestly invited to continue his labors. A call for him to settle at Hanover was immediately sent to the Presbytery, but he was about this time seized by symptoms which indicated consumption, and which brought him to the borders of the grave. In this enfeebled state, he determined to spend the remainder of his life in unremitting endeavors to advance the interests of religion. Being among a people who were destitute of a minister, his indisposition did not repress his exertions. He still preached in the day, while by night his hectic was so severe as sometimes to render him delirious. In the Spring of 1748 a messenger from Hanover visited him, and he thought it his duty to accept the invitation of the people in that place. He hoped that he might live to organize the congregation. His health, however, gradually improved. In October, 1748, three more meeting-houses were licensed, and among his seven congregations, which were in different counties, Hanover, Henrico, Caroline, Louisa, and Goochland, some of them forty miles distant from each other, he divided his labors. His home was in Hanover, about twelve miles from Richmond. His preaching encountered all the obstacles which could arise from blindness, prejudice and bigotry, from profaneness and immorality. He, and those who attended upon his preaching, were denominated new lights by the more zealous Episcopalians; but by his patience and perseverance, his magnanimity and piety, in conjunction with his evangelical and powerful ministry, he triumphed over opposition. Contempt and aversion were gradually turned into reverence. Many were attracted by curiosity to hear a man of such distinguished talents, and he proclaimed to them the most solemn and impressive truths with an energy which they could not resist. It pleased God to accompany these exertions with the efficacy of His Spirit. In about three years, Mr. Davies beheld three hundred communicants in his congregation, whom he considered as real Christians. He had also, in this period, baptized about forty adult negroes, who made such a profession of faith as he judged credible.

In 1753 the Synod of New York, by request of the Trustees of New Jersey College, chose Mr. Davies to accompany Gilbert Tennent to Great Britain, to solicit donations for the college. This service he cheerfully undertook, and he executed it with singular spirit and success. He arrived in London, December 25th. The liberal contributions obtained from the patrons of religion and learning placed the college in a respectable condition. After his return to America he entered anew, in 1754 or early in 1755, on his beloved work of preaching the gospel, in Hanover. Here he continued till 1759, when he was chosen President of the college, as successor of Dr. Edwards. He hesi-

tated in his acceptance of the appointment, for his people were endeared to him, and he loved to be occupied in the various duties of the ministerial office. But repeated applications and the unanimous opinion of the Synod of New York and Philadelphia, at length determined him. He was dismissed from Hanover, May 13th, and entered upon his new office, July 6th, 1759. Here the vigor and versatility of his genius were strikingly displayed. The ample opportunities and demands which he found for the exercise of his talents, gave a new spring to his diligence, and while his active labors were multiplied and arduous, his studies were intense. At the close of January, 1761, he was bled, for a bad cold, and the next day transcribed for the press his sermon on the death of George II. The day following he preached twice, in the chapel. His arm became inflamed, and a violent fever succeeded, to which he fell a victim in ten days. He died, February 4th, 1761, aged 36. His venerable mother, Martha Davies, survived him. When he was laid in the coffin, she gazed at him a few minutes and said, "There is the son of my prayers and my hopes—my only son—my only earthly support. But there is the will of God, and I am satisfied."

Dr. Davies was endowed with the richest intellectual gifts, with a vigorous understanding, a glowing imagination, a fertile invention, united with a correct judgment and a retentive memory. He was bold and enterprising, and destined to excel in whatever he undertook. Yet he was divested of the pride of talents and of science, and, being moulded into the temper of the gospel he consecrated all his powers to the promotion of religion. As President of the College, he possessed an admirable mode of government and instruction. He watched over his pupils with the tender solicitude of a father, and secured equally their reverence and love. He seized every opportunity to inculcate on them the worth of their souls, and the pressing necessity of securing immediately the blessings of salvation.

Dr. Davies was a model of the most sterling oratory. As his personal appearance was august and venerable, yet benevolent and mild, he could address his auditory either with the most commanding authority, or with the most melting tenderness. When he spoke, he seemed to have the glories and terrors of the unseen world in his eye. He seldom preached without producing some visible emotions in great numbers present, and without making an impression on one or more which was never effaced. His printed sermons, which exhibit his sentiments, abound with striking thoughts, with the beauties and elegances of expression, and with the richest imagery.

Davis, Hon. James Lynn, son of Ignatius and Catharine (Lackland) Davis, was born in Montgomery county, Maryland, August 15th, 1809. In early life he removed to Frederick county, Md. He was educated in the Frederick educational institutions, after which he engaged in agricultural pur-

suits at Mount Hope, and afterward at Clifton, near Frederick City, Md., where he lived the rest of his life. In 1858 he was elected to the Maryland Legislature, in which position he served for some years. He united with the Presbyterian Church in Frederick City, in October, 1831, and was elected and ordained a ruling elder of the same church, in June, 1833, during the pastorate of his wife's brother, Rev. James Garland Hamner, D. D. He held this office for nearly forty years, and took an active interest in a large number of the meetings of his Presbytery and Synod, and served as a Commissioner to the General Assembly. For many years he was superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Protestant Sabboth-schools of Buckeystown, a village near his residence. His death occurred, July 19th, 1872.

Mr. Davis's life was one of honor and usefulness in the community in which he lived, and in both the Church and the State. With the Frederick City Presbyterian Church, in which he was the leading member and most eminent elder for twoscore years, his name is identified, and his fame, as a good man and devoted to good, is known throughout the whole community. He regularly visited every member of the congregation at least once a year, and by his faithful and devoted labors, accomplished much lasting good work for his church. One of his sons, Samuel Hamner Davis, became a Presbyterian minister.

Davis, Samuel S., D. D., was born July 12th, 1793, at Ballston Centre, N. Y. He graduated at Middlebury College in 1812, but afterwards received his first degree, *ad eundem*, from Union College. After his graduation he took charge of an Academy at Castleton, Vt. After spending a part of the year 1815 in Princeton Seminary, he was Tutor in Union College nearly two years; then returned to the Seminary, and after two years' further study, graduated in 1819. Licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Albany, October 12th, 1819; he soon afterwards was commissioned to collect funds to complete the endowment of a Seminary Professorship, which the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia had resolved to found in connection with the Synod of North Carolina, and for this object he raised a large amount; but before the whole sum was completed, the Synod had embarked in the new effort, to found the Seminary now located at Columbia, S. C. He was ordained to the work of the ministry by the Presbytery of Albany, August 12th, 1821; dismissed to the Presbytery of Harmony, September 13th, 1821, and installed, December 16th, 1821, pastor of the Church at Darien, Ga. This relation was dissolved April 5th, 1823, but during its continuance he had received a considerable accession to the church, to which he had given a decided impulse.

From Darien Mr. Davis went to Camden, S. C., where he supplied the Church (then called Bethesda) from March, 1823, for nearly a year, after which he supplied the Church at Augusta, Ga., in connection