

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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Dickinson, Jonathan, D.D., the first President of New Jersey College, was born in Hatfield, Mass., April 22d, 1688. He graduated at Yale, in 1706, and in 1708 was installed pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Elizabethtown, N. J. Of this church he was for nearly forty years the joy and glory. The charter of the College of New Jersey, which had never yet been carried into operation, was enlarged by Governor Belcher, October 22d, 1746, and Mr. Dickinson was appointed President. The Institution commenced at Elizabethtown, but it did not long enjoy the advantages of his superintendence, for it pleased God to call him away from life, October 7th, 1747, aged fifty-nine. His last words were: "Many days have passed between God and my soul, in which I have solemnly dedicated myself to Him, and, I trust, what I have committed unto Him He is able to keep until that day."

Dr. Dickinson was a most solemn, weighty and moving preacher; a uniform advocate of the distinguishing doctrines of grace; industrious, indefatigable and successful in his ministerial labors. His person was manly and of full size; his aspect grave and solemn, so that the wicked seemed to tremble in his presence. As a friend of literature, he was also eminently useful. His writings possess a very high degree of merit. They are designed to unfold the wonderful method of redemption, and to excite men to that cheerful consecration of all their talents to their Maker, to that careful avoidance of sin and practice of godliness, which will exalt them to glory. The most important are his "Discourses on the Reasonableness of Christianity," and on the "Five Points," in answer to Whitby. An octavo volume of his works was published at Edinburgh, in 1793. Dr. Erskine said the British Isles had produced no such writers on divinity in the eighteenth century as Dickinson and Edwards.

Dickinson, Rev. Richard Salter Storrs, eldest son of Professor Baxter Dickinson, was born in Longmeadow, Mass., April 3d, 1824. He graduated from Amherst College in 1844, and studied theology at Auburn and Union (N. Y.) Seminaries. He was ordained pastor of Houston Street Presbyterian Church, New York city, by the Third Presbytery of New York, March 28th, 1849, and continued in this relation until 1853. He was associate pastor with the Rev. Albert Barnes, of the First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, 1853-5. In 1856 he started on a tour of Europe, preparatory to taking charge of the American Chapel in Paris, which had recently been established by Dr. Kirk, acting for the American and Foreign Christian Union. He died at Edinburgh, Scotland, August 28th, 1856.

Dickinson, Rev. Richard W., D.D., was born in New York, November 21st, 1801. He graduated at Yale College in 1823, and abandoning the purpose of studying law, entered Princeton Theological Seminary. He was ordained an evangelist by

the Second Presbytery of New York, in 1827, and was settled over the Church in Lancaster, Pa., November, 1829. Here his ministry was highly successful. His preaching was pungent and powerful, and a revival ensued, but his voice failing he was compelled to resign, in 1834. He spent some time in foreign travel, and on his return a variety of offers were made him of pulpits and professorships. October 22d, 1839, he was installed over Canal Street Church, New York, but after a few years his health again broke down, and he resigned in 1845. After a rest of a dozen years, his health was so much improved that he felt justified in again putting on the harness, and accepted a call to the Mount Washington Valley Church, near Fordham, New York. Here he remained till his death, which occurred August 16th, 1874, in the sixty-ninth year of his age.

Dr. Dickinson was one of the rare examples of the gospel winning its trophies among "them of Caesar's household." Nature had done much for him, culture more. The accessories of family and fortune would have favored him, and had he chosen to enter the profession of the law, he might reasonably have anticipated its highest honors and rewards. But he preferred the humble and less glittering path of the gospel ministry, and devoted himself faithfully and conscientiously to its self-denying duties, to which he sacrificed not only his prospects, but his health as well. "His record is on high."

Dr. Dickinson was a gentlemanly, courteous and dignified clergyman, and a sincere and honest man. He wielded a polished and graceful pen, and his sermons, which he read closely, were model compositions. His published works were, besides numerous contributions to quarterly reviews and other periodicals, "Religion Teaching by Example," "Life and Times of Howard," "Responses from the Sacred Oracles," "Resurrection of Christ," etc.

Dickson, Rev. Andrew Flinn, A. M., was born at Charleston, S. C., November 9th, 1825; graduated at Yale College in 1845, and studied theology at Lane and Yale Seminaries. He was ordained in 1852 by Charleston Union Presbytery. He was pastor at John's Island, S. C., 1850-55; District Secretary of the American Sunday-school Union, 1855-7; pastor at Orangeburg, S. C., 1857-68; Fourth Church, New Orleans, 1868-71; Wilmington, N. C., 1871-3; Chester, S. C., 1873-6, and in charge of the Southern General Assembly's Colored Theological Institute, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, from 1876 till his death, 1879. He was a faithful and useful man in all the spheres he occupied, and died in the blessed hope of a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Dickson, Cyrus, D. D., was born, December 20th, 1816, on the Lake Erie shore, Erie county, Pa. He graduated at Jefferson College in 1837, and was taken under the care of the Presbytery of Erie, as a candidate for the Christian ministry, in October, 1838, and licensed to preach the gospel in the following