

SKETCHES OF THE MINISTERS

Of the

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF NORTH AMERICA

From 1888 to 1930

With supplemental sketches of ministers living in 1888 whose records were carried forward in Glasgow's History up to that date; together with sketches of the institutions, missions and organizations of the Church, and lists of missionaries who have served the Church during this period; containing also 42 portraits of Moderators of Synod besides the cuts of the institutions of the Church; also lists of Presbyteries and Congregations together with the dates of organization and disorganization of the same during the period covered by this volume.



By

THE REV. OWEN F. THOMPSON

Pastor of the Blanchard Congregation

Blanchard, Iowa

THE material for this volume was gathered, prepared and published under the appointment and direction of the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America and in accordance with resolutions passed by Synod in 1921 in the Eighth Street Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and again in 1929 at Winona Lake, Indiana.

Presbytery on May 2, 1922. He was ordained to the Gospel Ministry by Ohio Presbytery in the Southfield Church at Birmingham, Michigan, November 4, 1923, and installed pastor over that congregation on the same date. He is in charge there at the present time. He was in business from 1912 to 1914, and was in War Service from 1917 to 1919. On December 20, 1923, he was united in marriage with Miss Iva Jane Allen of Morning Sun, Iowa.

DAVID McALLISTER, D. D., LL. D.

DAVID McALLISTER, whose biographical sketch is carried forward to the year 1888 in Glasgow's History, was, at the time of the publishing of that volume, pastor of the Eighth Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, congregation of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. He had been installed in this charge October 21, 1887. He continued to fill this pastorate with great devotion and effectiveness until the time of his death, which occurred on June 13, 1907, at the Allegheny General Hospital, following an operation. The funeral services were held in the Eighth Street Church where he had been the beloved pastor for 20 years. His body was laid to rest in Highwood Cemetery, Monday, June 17, 1907. He was not only a great preacher and pastor but was equally well known and appreciated in work outside his congregational charge. He was one of the leaders in the National Reform work under the National Reform Association. He spoke for an hour and a half in the face of determined opposition before the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives for the Amendment to the Constitution recognizing the authority of Christ. This was

on March 11, 1896. On March 27 of 1900 he spoke again before the same Committee on Polygamy. For years he was before the public on the platform as a public lecturer, and in the press as a powerful writer in the interests of the Kingdom of Heaven as related to society and government. Because of his proficiency in the Spanish language he was sent by the National Reform Association to Havana in February of 1902, to urge upon the Cuban Constitutional Convention the recognition of a Supreme Being in their fundamental law. He was an author of note. The list of most of his writings in book form may be found in Glasgow's History. He was a remarkably busy man, yet found time for an unusual amount of study and cultural exercises. At the time of his death he was considered the most expert linguist in the city of Pittsburgh. At a polyglot entertainment given in that city, at which eleven languages were spoken, Dr. McAllister was selected to introduce the speakers. Each man was introduced in the language in which he was himself to speak. He was not only a preacher of note, a pastor greatly beloved, and a reformer whose influence will be felt for generations, but he was a business man of outstanding ability. Even in the very year of his death it was his influence as much as any other one influence that led the Keystone Driller Company to take a forward step that was to mean much in bringing that company into its future place in the trade world. The great work of every minister of the Gospel is always preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom. Dr. McAllister was ordained to the Gospel Ministry by New York Presbytery December 16, 1863, and died June 13, 1907, making his service under ordination cover a period of 44 years. A period rather

long for earthly service yet exceedingly short as a beginning of an eternal service.

DAVID McALLISTER, JR.

DAVID McALLISTER, son of David and Margaret Anna (King) McAllister, was born at Walton, New York, May 27, 1867. He was baptized in infancy in this same place, and also united with the Reformed Presbyterian Church in the same place. He attended the Walton Academy and Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, graduating from the latter institution in the year 1888. In the fall of the same year he entered the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary in Allegheny (now North Side Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania, and completed the course there in the spring of 1892. He was licensed to preach the Gospel by Pittsburgh Presbytery April 14, 1891. He was ordained to the Gospel Ministry by the same Presbytery for work in the Chinese Mission in Oakland, California, where he labored for about three years following his ordination. He spent some years also teaching. He served in the Spanish-American War in Light Battery C, 7th Artillery. He was in service at Porto Rico. After supplying through the Church for some time he gave up preaching and went into business.

GEORGE ROBB McBURNEY

G. R. McBURNEY, whose earlier years are briefly spoken of in Glasgow's History, was in the year 1888, when that volume was published, preaching as a licentiate in Pittsburgh Presbytery. He completed his seminary work in the spring of 1889. He was ordained to the Gospel Minis-