

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.

by his grave there appear these words in both Arabic and English: "Here lies what was mortal of David Metheny, M. D., Minister of the Gospel, (birth and death). "David, when he had served his generation, fell asleep." His exact age was 60 years, 7 months, 10 days. There were four children by his first marriage: Emma Matilda Mizpah, (Mrs. A. J. Dodds) died April 14, 1885; Elma Gregg Sterrett, died 1872; Samuel Alexander Sterrett, M. D., died March 26, 1921; David Gregg, M. D. There were six children by his second marriage: Mary Evangeline, John Renwick, Janet Theodora, Robert Livingstone, Carey Wycliffe, died in infancy, and Coligny Brainard. Mrs. Mary Metheny resides at Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania.

LOUIS MEYER, M. D., D. D.

LOUIS MEYER, son of a well-to-do Hebrew, was born in the small town of Crivitz, in the Dukedom of Mecklinburg-Schwerin, in Northern Germany, on August 30, 1862. He was given a good secular education, and at an early age was sent to the Gymnasium in Parchim, Mecklinburg, (an institution between an American College and a University), from which he graduated in 1882. He took the best training possible for the practice of medicine, and became especially interested in surgery. In this line he served as "Volunteer" in the Royal Surgical Hospital at Halle. Being weakened through the contraction of blood poison he spent four years as Steward and Chief Purser on various steamers visiting almost all parts of the world. His health being fully restored, he came to Cincinnati, Ohio, intending to take up again the practice of surgery. God, how-

ever, had planned otherwise. The unbelieving Jew was converted and united with the Reformed Presbyterian Church. He was baptized in 1892 by the Rev. J. C. Smith, pastor of the congregation in that city, whose eldest daughter later became the wife of the young Hebrew Christian, in 1898. At the urgent request of friends, Dr. Meyer gave up surgery for the Ministry of the Gospel, entering the Allegheny (now North Side Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania, Seminary, and completing his course in that institution in 1897. He was licensed by Pittsburgh Presbytery April 14, 1897, and was ordained to the Gospel Ministry and installed pastor over the Lake Reno congregation, near Glenwood, Minnesota, in January, 1898. He was released from Lake Reno on May 31, 1900, and installed pastor of the Hopkinton, Iowa, congregation on June 21, 1900. He was released from Hopkinton February 20, 1906. During these years Mr. Meyer had been making an extensive study of Jewish Missions until he had become the foremost authority on this subject and other related subjects. In 1901 he was invited to be one of the speakers at the Messianic Conference at the Park Street Church, Boston. In 1902 he was one of the speakers in the Jewish section of the Student Volunteer Convention of Toronto, Canada. In 1903 he was the Organizing Secretary of the International Hebrew Christian Conference at Mountain Lake Park, Indiana. In 1902 he furnished the tables of the Jewish Missions for the Atlas of Missions by H. P. Beach, which he revised in 1904 for the new Encyclopedia of Missions, and again in 1910 for "The World Atlas of Christian Missions." In 1905 he wrote the article on Judaism for the text book of the Student Volunteers' "Religions of the Mission Field." In February, 1906, Mr.

Meyer accepted the offer of the Chicago Hebrew Mission to become their Field Secretary. He was also Editor and Associate Editor, besides making many contributions to many religious and missionary magazines and publications. He was a statistician of acknowledged authority in the United States and abroad. On April 28, 1911, the Dubuque German Presbyterian College conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him. On June 1, 1911, he was appointed to succeed Dr. A. C. Dickson as Executive Secretary of "The Fundamentals." These are but a part of the many public trusts that were committed to him, showing the extent of his influence and the reputation that he had built for himself in the great work to which he had given his life. On November 3, 1912, he was stricken with hemorrhages of the lungs, and though he was taken to a sanitarium at Monrovia, California, and was under the care of the best physicians, he gradually grew weaker, and on July 11, 1913, he left the fields of earthly service and vision of faith for the Heavenly Canaan, where we see and know even as we are known. So ended the life of one who held a unique place of service of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

ALEXANDER McLEOD MILLIGAN, JR.

A. M. MILLIGAN, the first years of whose life is recorded in Glasgow's History, was in the year 1888, the date of the publication of that volume, a licentiate preaching through the church. He was never ordained in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and did not hold a pastorate in that body. In the fall of 1891, or the spring of 1892, he was granted a letter of standing and withdrew from the Reformed Presbyterian Church and entered the United