

## HISTORY

#### OF THE

# Reformed Presbyterian Church

IN

## AMERICA:

WITH SKETCHES OF ALL HER MINISTRY, CONGREGATIONS, MISSIONS, INSTITUTIONS, PUBLICATIONS, ETC., AND EMBELLISHED WITH OVER FIFTY PORTRAITS AND ENGRAVINGS.

BY

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BALTIMORE, MD.

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### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

united congregations of Harmony, Mechanicsville and Union, Indiana County, Pennsylvania, in 1856, where he<sup>®</sup> remained eight years. He was installed, in 1864, over the united congregations of Fairfield, Milledgeville and Sandy Lake, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, and remained nine years. In 1873, he took charge of the united congregations of Bethel, Onslow, Wayne and Scotch Grove, Jones County, Iowa, resigning in 1881, when he retired from active service, and is living upon his farm near Scotch Grove, Iowa. He was married twice. First to Miss Jessie H. Mowatt, of Syracuse, New York, in 1854; and second, to Miss Louisa M. Diven, of Penn Run, Pennsylvania, in 1857.

THOMAS PLANTS ROBB:

Son of George and Jane (George) Robb, was born near Venice, Washington County, Pennsylvania, April 5, 1843. He received a liberal education in the common schools of his native County, finished the course in the Dayton Union Academy in 1866, and graduated from Muskingum College in 1867. He studied theology in the Allegheny Seminary, and was licensed by the Pittsburgh Presbytery, April 12, 1870. He was ordained by the Lakes Presbytery, installed pastor of the Garrison congregation, Glenwood, Fayette County, Indiana, May 16, 1871, and resigned this charge, April 12, 1874. He was installed pastor of the Sharon congregation, Linton, Des Moines County, Iowa, July 6, 1874, where he is in charge. He married Miss Catharine Marshall, of Dayton, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1872.

WILLIAM LOUIS ROBERTS, D. D.:

Son of John and Mary (Smith) Roberts, was born near Franklin, Pendleton County, Virginia, (now in

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West Virginia) June 27, 1798. His parents were members of the Associate Reformed Church, and removed to Canonsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1804, where he received his early education. He pursued his preparatory course in the Academy of Bedford, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Jefferson College in 1820. He received the appointment as cadet in the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, but was finally persuaded to abandon military aspirations by the Rev. Dr. J. R. Willson and connected with the Covenanter Church. He studied theology under the direction of the Rev. Dr. J. R. Willson at Coldenham, New York, and was licensed by the Northern Presbytery, September 11, 1822. He was ordained by the same Presbytery, installed pastor of the congregation of Paterson, New Jersey, May 19, 1824, and resigned this charge, December 18, 1825. He was installed pastor of the united congregations of Clyde, Galen, Caledonia and York, New York, November 16, 1826, and resigned these societies, October 6, 1830. He was installed pastor of the congregation of Baltimore, Maryland, January 15, 1835, and was released, October 9, 1837. He was installed pastor of the united congregations of Clyde and Sterling, New York, October 19, 1837, and resigned this charge, May 26, 1855. He removed to Hopkinton, Delaware County, Iowa, and was stated supply to the newly organized congregation of that place for five years, being installed pastor, May 9, 1860, where he remained until his very sudden death of heart disease, December 7, 1864. He was twice married. First to Miss Margaret Milliken,

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WILLIAM L. ROBERTS, D. D.

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of Walden, New York, in 1821; and second to Miss Anna Acheson, of New York City, New York, in 1830. He was a learned, eloquent and earnest preacher of the gospel. By many he was regarded as one of the great preachers of the Covenanter Church, and was known to a large circle of professional men as a public-spirited minister. He was a keen controversialist and a great debater. He was held in high esteem by those who differed from his sentiments, for his candid opinions and unwavering tenacity to Bible principles of government. He was a talented author, a forcible writer, and did much with his voice and pen to strengthen the members of the Church in her distinctive principles. Among his writings extant are: "Submission to the Powers that Be," 1828, pp. 140. "The Higher Law," 1851, pp. 32. "The Reformed Presbyterian Catechism," 1853, pp. 188. He was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Jefferson College in 1846. He was Moderator of the Synod of 1853.

SAMUEL ROBINSON:

Son of John and Sarah (McElroy) Robinson, was born near Dervock, County Antrim, Ireland, in 1780.\* He was brought up under the pastoral care of the Rev. James McKinney. He came to America in 1791, and settled in the Chester District, South Carolina, where he received his early education, and entered the Philadelphia Academy. He studied theology in the Philadelphia Seminary, was licensed by the Middle Presbytery, May 9, 1814, and preached with great acceptance

\* Communications from relatives and acquaintances.

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