

COVENANTER MINISTERS

1930-1963

of the

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF NORTH AMERICA

This volume is a successor to Thompson's *Sketches of the Ministers*, published in 1930. It contains supplemental sketches of ministers who were living in 1930 and of those who were called into service later. Some of these have entered into rest, while others have either retired or continue their ministry. The appendix includes a short list of those who left the communion of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. The latter pages are composed of accounts of institutions and projects of the church and include lists of missionaries who served in the period from 1930-1963. Pictures of moderators and of our institutions are given. For historical reference there are contained herein lists of Presbyteries and of Congregations, with dates of organization and disorganization during this same period.

By

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sacrifices had much to do with the advance of the College to its present growth and position of influence.

In fact Dr. Clarke carried forward this service for half a century until because of the infirmities of old age, it became necessary for him to retire.

From the memoir prepared by Dr. J. B. Willson the following tribute is on record: "During this half century he was responsible for raising the funds necessary for the erection of new buildings. The first was the William Pollock Johnston gymnasium. Major repairs on the chapel followed, with the new stained glass windows; then McKee Hall; the Girls' Dormitory; then Reeves Stadium. He influenced the three Deal sisters of Philadelphia, former parishioners of Clarence Edward McCartney and close friends of the Covenanters there, to build McCartney Library. He aided in raising the funds for building Memorial Hall, and oversaw the purchase of many of the college properties.

But Dr. Clarke did more than raise money for Geneva. He also "served as instructor of moral philosophy and coach of debating teams. He received a trophy from the College Board of Trustees for the record in the period of 1926-27 of 19 debate victories and only 1 defeat. For many years he and his wife were chaperones for the girls' glee club on their annual trips to different parts of the country." Geneva College also awarded Dr. Clarke the life "G" its highest award, in 1931.

His son Edwin was, for some years, professor in Geneva and then was elected president and his father continued as his assistant. Dr. Clarke was blessed with long life. In his 90th year he passed away in Providence Hospital, Beaver Falls, Pa., August 19, 1961.

GEORGE SLATER COLEMAN, D. D., Ph. D.

George S. Coleman, son of William John and Sarah Elizabeth George Coleman, was born at Utica, Ohio, on

October 29, 1886. He attended grade school on Northside, Pittsburgh and Allegheny High School. He was graduated from Western University of Pennsylvania (now Univ. of Pittsburgh) in 1908 with an A. B. degree. He took graduate study at Harvard in 1908, 09, 16, and 26-33, and was given M. A. degree in English and Ph. D. degree in History.

He united with the R. P. church at Allegheny, Pa., on April 17, 1899. He received his training in theology in our seminary then located in Allegheny and was licensed to preach on May 9, 1911, by Pittsburgh Presbytery. He was ordained pastor of our Hopkinton, Iowa congregation on February 7, 1913 and was released on February 8, 1926. He served as pastor in our Cambridge, Massachusetts congregation from September 24, 1926 until July 27, 1936.

On February 1, 1916 he was married to Helen Frances Joseph. They have 4 children: Carol Elizabeth, William Hall, Mary Katherine, Donald George. The children of these four are: 1. Richard John Piper; 2. Diane Frances Coleman; 3. Oscar Bruce Bieshalt; 4. Jane Eileen, Ann Frances, and Glynn Frances Coleman.

Mr. Coleman was honored with the Doctor of Divinity degree by Lenox College, Hopkinton, Iowa in 1922. It is of interest to know that the subject of his thesis for Ph. D. degree from Harvard was "The Religious Background of the Constitution of the United States."

Dr. Coleman once published a four-page (sometimes eight) quarterly on the Covenanter political ideas, called "America's Great Decision." It reached a circulation of 4,000 when it had to be discontinued because the editor was going to graduate school for further study. He taught in Geneva College from September, 1936 until June, 1962. His main work now is to sum up all his later and former study on Religion and the Constitution for a book.