

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 For historical reference there are contained herein lists of Presbyteries and of Congregations, with dates of organization and disorganization during this same period.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

THE REV. ALVIN W. SMITH, D. D.
Pastor of Union Congregation
Mars, Pa.

Thompson's **Sketches of the Ministers**, was, in the year 1930, when that volume was published, living in retirement in Hemet, California. The latter years of his life were spent in weakness, but of this he was never heard to complain. The years of sickness were not idle years; up until the very end of life his interest in the church and his prayers for the success of her work were unceasing.

Dr. Thompson was Clerk of Synod for many years and served for a time as Home Mission Secretary. He performed his varied tasks in the service of his Lord with painstaking care and faithfulness. He passed away on August 28, 1940.

OWEN F. THOMPSON, D. D.

Owen F. Thompson, whose biographical sketch appears in **Sketches of the Ministers** of which he himself was the author, was, in 1930, the year in which his book was published, pastor of the Long Branch congregation of Blanchard, Iowa. He had been installed there in September, 1924.

He was released from this charge on June 11, 1937, and was installed pastor at Greeley, Colorado, on July 6, that same year. He served this congregation for eleven years, when he was compelled to resign, by reason of illness, on July 1, 1948. He continued to live in Greeley until his death came, after prolonged affliction, on July 16, 1962. During these years he had the constant attendance of his loving wife and companion in service.

Dr. F. F. Reade in his memoir pays tribute to Dr. Thompson's versatility and faithfulness: "Owen Thompson served his church in a number of capacities besides that of pastor. He was Chairman of Synod's Bible Reading Committee for eight years, from 1919-1927. It was during his incumbency that the Reader, which took one through the Bible in one year, was introduced. Another monument to his earnest and

devoted labors is the **Sketches of the Ministers**, published in 1932, bringing the biographies of the ministers up to date from 1888 to 1930. In addition to these labors he served on various boards and committees."

His ability and devotion were exhibited in his service for several years as Co-Editor of "The Covenanter Witness."

"Owen was thorough in all that he undertook, as a student in college in his studies; as an athlete in college, where he distinguished himself on the football field; and as a minister of the gospel, in which capacity he served his denomination wisely and well.

"Owen F. Thompson, like David of old, 'after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep.' Of him it may truly be said: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, for their works do follow them.'"

WILLIAM THOMAS KNOX THOMPSON

W. T. K. Thompson, whose biographical sketch appears in Thompson's **Sketches of the Ministers** up to the year 1930, when that volume was published, was then serving as pastor of the Mercer, Pennsylvania congregation. He was released from this charge on June 3, 1948, after a pastorate of almost thirty-seven years. He finished his earthly course on August 28, 1948.

Mr. Thompson was an outstanding advocate and exemplification of consistency in every thing that has to do with our profession of faith. What he professed to believe he believed, and what he engaged by his covenant vows to do, he set himself to the task of doing. He was a sympathetic pastor. He was elected Moderator of the Synod in 1931.