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AND OTHER EMINENT MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH.

Including a Description of the Historic Decorations of the Pan Presbyterian Council of 1880,

By REV. HENRY C. McCOOK, D. D., LL. D.

Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces, that ye may tell it to the generation following—PSALM XLVIII, 12, 13.

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Babb, Clement Edwin, D. D., was born at Pittston, Pa., August 19th, 1821. He graduated at Dickinson College in 1840, and studied theology at Union and Lane Seminaries. He was ordained by the Presbytery of Indianapolis, in September, 1848. He was pastor of the Second Church, Indianapolis, 1848-53; editor of *Christian Herald*, 1853-70, and of the united paper *Herald and Presbyter*, 1870-3; corresponding editor of the same paper, 1873-8; editor of the *Occident*, San Francisco, 1876-81. He resides at present at *San Jose*, California. Dr. Babb has been faithful in all the positions he has occupied. He is a forcible preacher, a graceful and vigorous writer, and has exerted a large influence for good in the communities in which his lot has been cast.

Babbitt, Rev. William Hampton, son of William and Elizabeth E. (Sutton) Babbitt, was born in Mendham, New Jersey, June 5th, 1825. He received his academic training in a classical school of celebrity in his native place, entered the College of New Jersey, Princeton, and was graduated, one of the first in his class, in 1846. He spent three years teaching in an academy at Flushing, Long Island, and subsequently entered the Princeton Theological Seminary, graduating in 1853. He was two years tutor in Princeton College. After serving as a licentiate in Ohio and in Deckertown, New Jersey, he was ordained as an evangelist, by the Presbytery of Rockaway, in 1856. He was pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Hoboken, New Jersey, 1857-67; of the First Presbyterian Church of Glendale, Ohio, 1867-81; and has been supply and pastor of the Church of Tecumseh, Mich., from 1882 to the present time.

Mr. Babbitt is a fine scholar, a chaste and polished writer, a sound theologian, a faithful pastor, with gifts for the pulpit much above the average. Unostentatious in manner, wholly devoted to his sacred calling, prudent in speech, wise in counsel, with the advantages of the best home and literary culture, he has always been highly esteemed by his ministerial brethren, and loved as the faithful pastor of the flocks over whom the Holy Ghost has made him overseer.

Backus, John Chester, D. D., was born in Wethersfield, Conn., September 3d, 1810. He graduated at Yale College in 1830. After his graduation he studied law. His theological studies were pursued at New Haven, Andover and Princeton Seminaries. He was ordained an evangelist by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, in December, 1835, and was assistant secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Domestic Missions 1835-6. In 1836 he accepted the pastorate of the

First Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Md., retaining the charge until his resignation in 1875, since which time he has been Pastor Emeritus.

Dr. Backus is a gentleman of great personal culture, united with marked dignity of character. He is a forcible preacher, and always presents the truth with an earnest spirit, and controlling reference to its practical bearings. His long ministry in Baltimore has been eminently blessed, not only in the prosperity of his own congregation, but in the influence which he has exerted for the growth of Presbyterianism in that city, where his exemplary and useful life has



JOHN CHESTER BACKUS, D.D.

secured for him universal esteem. As a member of several of the boards of the Church he has been very useful, by his sound judgment and wise counsels. He has been a Director of the Theological Seminary at Princeton since 1841, and has ever shown a deep interest in that institution. He was Moderator of the General Assembly at its meeting in Philadelphia in 1861, and presided over its deliberations ably and acceptably.

Backus, J. Trumbull, D.D., LL.D., son of E. F. Backus, was born in the city of Albany, N. Y., January 27th, 1809. He was prepared for college at the Albany Academy, and graduated at Columbia Col-

lege, New York city, in 1827. He received from that institution the degree of A.M., in 1830. He pursued his theological studies at Princeton from 1827 to 1830, at Andover from 1830 to 1831, and at New Haven during the last half of the year 1832. He was licensed to preach the gospel by the Presbytery of New York, in 1830. He was ordained and installed pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Schenectady, N. Y., by the Presbytery of Albany, in December, 1832, and continued in this relation until 1873, when declining health required the resignation of the charge. He received the honorary degree of S.T.D., from Union College in 1847. He has been a member of seven General Assemblies, and has served the Church on many important committees. He was one of the Committee that prepared the Hymnal. He was unanimously elected Moderator of the first reunited Assembly of 1870. In the discharge of his duties in this high office he gained the commendation of all his brethren, for the impartiality, suavity and dignity with which he presided over the deliberations of the Assembly. Dr. Backus still resides at Schenectady, enjoying the respect and confidence of the community in which he lives, as well as the regard of the entire Church for the advancement of whose interests he has labored with so much earnestness and success.

Backus, Rev. Wilbur, was born in Richmond, Mass., November 9th, 1788, and graduated at the College of New Jersey in 1813, and at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1816. Immediately after this, having been licensed to preach in April of that year, he, in company with Mr. (afterwards the Rev. Dr.) Gilbert, set out on a mission through Virginia, Ohio, and Illinois Territory, which they closed in February, 1817. On his return he preached five months, and with great success, to the Presbyterian congregation in Dayton, O. After leaving Dayton, he labored, for a while, under the direction of the Philadelphia Missionary Society, and afterwards supplied, for a considerable time, Dr. McDowell's pulpit, at Elizabethtown, N. J. On the 27th of August, 1818, he was installed pastor of the church in Dayton, and died on the 29th of the following September. Mr. Backus possessed a sound and well-balanced mind, was an earnest Christian, and an instructive and acceptable preacher.

Badger, Rev. Joseph. This name will long be remembered in Eastern Ohio. He whom it designates was the great missionary of the Western Reserve, and one of the pioneers to regions further west. He was a most remarkable man; eminently a man for the times in which he lived.

Joseph Badger was born in Wilbraham, Mass., February 28th, 1757. At the age of eighteen he entered the army, and continued in military service several years. After his conversion, he entered Yale College, in 1781, as a Freshman, and pursued his studies under great pecuniary embarrassment. Here

he constructed a *planetarium* that cost him three months' labor, and for which the college authorities gave him an order on the steward for one hundred dollars. He graduated in the Fall of 1783.

The next year Mr. Badger taught school and studied theology under the venerable Rev. Mark Leavenworth, and in due course was licensed to preach the gospel, by the New Haven Association. After serving several churches in Connecticut, until October 24th, 1800, he accepted the commission of the Connecticut Missionary Society to labor as a missionary in the Western Reserve of Ohio, or New Connecticut, as it was then called. He started for his new field of labor, November 15th, alone and on horseback. As the roads, towards the close of his journey, were mere bridle-paths, for nearly two hundred miles he had to lead his horse. He was obliged to swim the Mahoning River in Ohio, but at length reached Youngstown, and found a hospitable reception with the pastor, Rev. William Wick. Here he commenced a series of labors leading him in every direction where the cabin of a settler was to be sought. By request of the Presbytery of Ohio he went, in company with Rev. Thomas Edgar Hughes, as far as Maumee and Detroit, to consider the propriety of establishing a mission among the Indians. On his journey homeward he suffered great hardships.

Having returned to Connecticut, Mr. Badger made a report of his missionary operations to the Board, and on the 23d of February, 1802, started with his family to the Western Reserve, a journey of four or five hundred miles. The outfit was a four-horse wagon, in which were stowed his wife and six children, together with their household effects. After much exposure and trial by the way, he reached Austenburg, Ohio, at the expiration of two months. Here he built a rude cabin of logs, without a floor, furniture, or even a door, or chinking between the logs. Leaving his family to plant the garden and the corn-field, he set out on a missionary tour that continued three months, when he returned home. These missionary tours continued, with little cessation, until April, 1803. At that time he became a member of the Presbytery of Erie.

In 1806 Mr. Badger accepted a commission from the Western Missionary Society, located at Pittsburg, Pa., as a missionary to the Indians in the region of Sandusky, Ohio, for about four years. After resigning this commission, in 1810, he removed to Ashtabula, Ohio, where, and in the neighboring settlements, he preached, deriving his support in part from the people, and in part from the Massachusetts Missionary Society. During the war of 1812 he was, after solicitation to accept the position, appointed brigade chaplain and postmaster of the army, by General Harrison, and served in this capacity until Spring. He continued to preach in various places, without any regular support, until 1826. At that time he was placed on the pension roll of the War