

ENCYCLOPÆDIA
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

INCLUDING THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN ASSEMBLIES.

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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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joined the Lane Seminary Church, and was immediately elected an elder. He died March 11th, 1856. Judge Burnet was eminently exemplary as a Christian, and faithful as an officer of the Church. He was a man of great decision and earnestness. When Mayor of the city, he singly faced a mob in the flush of their riotous and revengeful triumph, and with a few words quelled their lawless spirit. He carried this decision into religion. From the moment he entered the Church, to the time of his death, no one who came in contact with him ever doubted where he stood. He died as he had lived. For years, sickness had invaded his constitution, and he stood with his loins girt about him and his lamp burning, awaiting the coming of the Lord. He had no fear of death, for Christ had already given him the victory.

Burr, Aaron, D. D., was a descendant of the Rev. Jonathan Burr, who migrated to New England in 1639, and was for some time pastor of the Church in Dorchester, Mass. He was born January 4th, 1715. He graduated at Yale in 1735; was licensed in September, 1736, and preached his first sermon at Greenfield, Mass. While laboring at Hanover, N. J., he was invited to the church at Newark, as its stated supply for a year, after which he was ordained and installed its pastor, January 25th, 1737. There was a remarkable revival in his congregation in the Autumn of 1739; in March the whole town was brought under an uncommon concern about their eternal interests. In February, 1741, there was another effusion of the Holy Spirit, principally upon the young. In June, 1744, the First Church in New Haven called Mr. Burr to become associated with their pastor, the Rev. Mr. Noyes, but the call was not accepted.

On the death of the Rev. Jonathan Dickinson, first President of the College of New Jersey, at Elizabethtown, in the Autumn of 1747, the Institution was removed to Newark, and Mr. Burr was placed at its head. In 1754 Whitefield, who was then paying a visit to Governor Belcher, at Elizabethtown, attended the Commencement at Newark, on which occasion President Burr had the pleasure of conferring upon him the degree of Master of Arts. His devotion to the college was most constant and exemplary, and the agency which he undertook in its behalf, by request of the Trustees, was remarkably successful. He discharged the duties of both President of the college and pastor of the church until the Autumn of 1755, when his pastoral relation was dissolved, and he gave his whole time to the service of the college. The village of Princeton having been fixed upon as the most convenient situation for the college, the new edifice was erected there, under the superintendence of Mr. Burr. In the Autumn of 1756, the building being so far completed as to be ready for the reception of the students, they removed thither, about seventy in number, and commenced the occupancy of it.

In the Summer of 1757 Mr. Burr, being in a low state of health, made a rapid and exhausting visit, in a very hot, sultry season, to his father-in-law, at Stockbridge. He soon returned to Princeton, and went immediately to Elizabethtown, and, on the 19th of August, made an attempt to procure the legal exemption of the students from military duty. Thence he went to Newark, and on the 21st, being much indisposed, he preached an extemporaneous sermon at a funeral in his successor's (Rev. John Brainerd's) family. Returning to Princeton, he immediately went to Philadelphia, on business of the college, and on his return home, learned that Governor Belcher had died on the 31st. He prepared the sermon for his funeral, under a high fever, and at night was delirious. He rode to Elizabethtown, and on the 4th preached, being in a state of extreme languor and exhaustion. Returning home next day, he sank under a nervous fever, and died September 24th, 1757. The Rev. Caleb Smith preached his funeral sermon. William Livingston, afterwards Governor of New Jersey, pronounced his eulogium. It was printed in New York, and speedily reprinted in Boston.

Mr. Burr published a Latin grammar, a pamphlet entitled, "The Supreme Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ Maintained, in a Letter to the Dedication of Mr. Emlyn's Inquiry into the Scriptural Account of Jesus Christ," reprinted in Boston, 1791; a Fast sermon, on account of the encroachments of the French, 1755; a sermon, preached before the Synod of New York, 1756; and a sermon on the death of Governor Belcher, 1757.

The intellectual attainments of Mr. Burr were of a high order. His piety was marked and fervent, prompting him to indefatigable efforts to cultivate the hearts of his pupils as well as their heads; to make them good Christians as well as good scholars. In the pulpit he shone with superior lustre. He was fluent, copious, sublime, persuasive. What he preached in the pulpit he lived out of it. His life and his example were a comment on his sermons. He was distinguished for public spirit and love of his country. As a teacher he had a most engaging method of instruction. In matters of government in the college he discovered great wisdom and sagacity. In ecclesiastical judicatories and councils his assistance was often desired, and his judgment deservedly esteemed. And his assiduity in propagating the gospel among the Indians constitutes one of the brightest features of his admirable character.

Burrell, David James, D. D., son of David and Elizabeth Felgar Burrell, was born at Mount Pleasant, Pa., August 1st, 1844. He graduated at Yale College, in the class of 1867. In New Haven he showed distinctly the traits that have distinguished him since: social attractiveness and natural oratorical ability. He led a brilliant career at college, ending with winning the DeForest gold medal, the highest

literary honor of the University. He studied theology for one year at the Northwestern Seminary, at Chicago, and took the remainder of the three years' course at Union Theological Seminary, New York, where he graduated, in 1870. He was licensed by the Presbytery of New York, and, for two years, had charge of a mission chapel in New York city. Thence he went to Chicago, to a chapel, which grew rapidly, and became, during his ministry, the Westminster Church. In 1876 he was called to the Second Presbyterian Church of Dubuque, Iowa, where he now is, continuing what has been a singularly successful pastorate. Dr. Burrell was an active participant in the Iowa Temperance campaign of 1882 and 1883, and is now one of the editors of a paper whose object is to push the Temperance issue. He is a frequent and vigorous contributor to the religious press, chiefly the *Interior*, whose Sunday-school department he has conducted for some time.

Burrowes, George, D. D., was born at Trenton, N. J., April 3d, 1811. He graduated at the College of New Jersey in 1832. In the Fall of that year he commenced the study of theology in the Princeton Seminary, but for some months he also acted as a Tutor in the college, and completed his theological course in the Fall of 1835. In July 1836 he became pastor of the West Nottingham Church and what is now Port Deposit Church, at the same time taking charge of the West Nottingham Academy. His pastorate here was greatly blessed by additions to the Church, but in 1840 he was induced to accept the Chair of Latin and Greek in Lafayette College, which he held until March, 1855. He was pastor of the Church at Newtown, Pa., 1857-59.

In June, 1859, Dr. Burrowes went to California with a commission from the Board of Education to lay the foundation of a Presbyterian college on the Pacific Coast. In this he has been eminently successful, and, as the *Founder of the University of San Francisco*, will long be remembered there. From an humble beginning in 1859, with four boys, one of them not six years of age, in the dark basement of Calvary Presbyterian Church, by Dr. Burrowes' vigorous efforts, succeeded (when forced to desist from labor for a period of three years) by those of the Rev. P. V. Veeder, there has been raised an institution which is an honor to the Presbyterian Church, and the most prosperous of the kind on the Pacific coast, and which promises to be a blessing even to other lands. Dr. Burrowes was elected Professor of Hebrew and Greek, in San Francisco Seminary, in 1873. His principal literary work is his "Commentary on the Song of Solomon," which was published in 1853. He was also some months editor of the *Pacific Expositor*, and has been a contributor to the *Princeton Review*. He is justly held in high esteem for his scholarship and excellence of character.

Burtis, Arthur, D. D., the son of Arthur and Elizabeth (Palmer) Burtis, was born in New York

city, October 25th, 1807. He graduated at Union College in 1827; studied theology at Princeton and Auburn, and was licensed by Cayuga Presbytery in 1833. After serving the Reformed Dutch Church at Fort Plain, N. Y., for a year, he accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church at Little Falls, N. Y., where his usefulness was interrupted by a bronchial affection, his pastorate only lasting for a year. When his health was restored he acted for some time as agent for the American Tract Society, at his own cost. He next supplied a church at Binghamton, N. Y., for a year, and then took charge of the Church at Oxford, N. Y., where he spent a happy, useful and honored pastorate of seven years. Subsequently he supplied the Church at Vernon, N. Y., for one year, then removed to Buffalo, N. Y., where he supplied the First Church for nine months, then became pastor of the South Presbyterian Church for three years, and of the Tabernacle Church for four years, both in the same city. For two years he was agent of the American and Foreign Christian Union. In 1866 he was invited to Miami University, to take charge of the classes in Greek, with a view to the Greek Professorship, to which position he was soon elected, being invited at the same time to supply a church in Oxford.

Dr. Burtis, just when he had fairly entered on his duties, died, March 27th, 1867. He was a cultivated gentleman and a good scholar. He was so genial, social, kind and polite that all esteemed and loved him. In his religious character he was consistent, decided and earnest; as a preacher, seeking the solid and true, rather than the showy and fanciful, and making it ever manifest that he was striving rather to honor his Master than himself.

Burt, Rev. John, the son of Robert and Jane (Drennan) Burt, was born in Knockmarlock House, Ayrshire, Scotland, May 23d, 1789. When sixteen years of age, he was seized by a "press-gang," and compelled to serve in the English navy. Here he remained five years, and experienced a most painful service; at the end of this time, through the aid of a friend connected with the navy, he was released. On his return home he renewed his literary pursuits, and taught school in Kilmarnock until 1816, when he went to Glasgow, Scotland, to attend medical lectures. In 1817 he emigrated to the United States, making his home in Philadelphia, Pa. After the study of divinity in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, N. J., he was licensed by Philadelphia Presbytery, in 1821, and in the Autumn of the same year was ordained by the same Presbytery, and became pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Salem, N. J. Here he labored until the Autumn of 1828. He then spent a few months in Deerfield, N. J., and in 1831 became the editor of *The Presbyterian*. He was the *first* editor of that paper. He continued as its editor until November 21st, 1832. After this he removed to Cincinnati, and in 1833 he became editor