



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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from actual life. He excelled in prayer, and his soul was filled with the importance and preciousness of the doctrines of grace. During the division of the Church in 1833, he adhered, without faltering, to her true position. He was a bold and enthusiastic advocate of the cause of the oppressed slave, and entered with earnestness into the reforms where the welfare of men and the glory of God were to be promoted. He was a judicious counsellor, a wise legislator, and regular in his attendance upon Church courts, where his opinion was of weight. He was a true Christian, conscientious in the performance of religious duties, faithful to the ecclesiastical and social ties which bound him to his God, his Church, and his family. He was an associate editor of the *Albany Quarterly*, 1832-1834. He was Moderator of the Synods of 1836 and 1856.

WILLIAM WILSON, D. D., LL. D.:

Son of John and Lilly A. Wilson, was born in Findrum, County Donegal, Ireland, December 25, 1803.* He received his early education in the schools of Donegal, came with his parents to America in 1823, and settled in the city of New York. Here he enjoyed the advantages of an excellent classical education, and graduated from Union College in 1828. He studied theology in the Philadelphia Seminary, and was licensed by the Philadelphia Presbytery, April 14, 1830. He was ordained *sine titulo* by the same Presbytery, as a Home Missionary, June 16, 1831, and served in this capacity two years. He was installed pastor of the congregation of Milton, Northumberland County, Penn-

* Communications per Rev. J. Y. Boice, Philadelphia, Pa.

sylvania, August 6, 1832. At the division of the Church in August, 1833, he became identified with the New School branch of the Covenanter Church, remained pastor of the congregation, and became Principal of the Milton Academy, until his resignation, April 13, 1837. He returned to the city of New York, and, in 1838, removed to the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he preached to the congregation of that city until his installation as pastor, July 13, 1839. He was suspended for some irregularity, October 14, 1847, and organized an independent Church, which he styled the "Church of the Covenanters." After an ineffectual application to return to the true Covenanter Church, he returned to the New School body, May 17, 1854, and continued in this relation until shortly before his death. He was well informed in politics, took a patriotic stand at the time of the war of the rebellion, and was a Chaplain. After the war he returned to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he preached as his health would permit, and was Chancellor of the Cincinnati College for several years. During the winter of 1872, he slipped and fell upon the icy pavement, and fractured a limb, which developed into a disease which terminated his life, at his home in Cincinnati, Ohio, September 9, 1873. He married Miss Anna Campbell, of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1853. He was an excellent classical scholar, and an interesting preacher of the gospel. His habits were not always in harmony with his profession, and he frequently came in collision with Church discipline. He possessed a mind of unusual power, which was stored with accurate and

useful knowledge. He had a prodigious memory, and retained a vast amount of Scripture at his command. He was editor of the *American Christian Instructor*, a monthly, from 1833 to 1837. He was a profuse writer on political and religious subjects, and among his publications, are the following: "The Blessed Nation," "Ministerial Heroism," "The Church and the New Age," "The Man for the Hour," "The Cause of the United States," "The Curse of Meroz," "A Nation Non-Plussed," "The Day of Small Things," and "Democracy versus Doulocracy." He published some essays on Geology in the *Presbyterian Witness*. He was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Franklin College in 1848, and that of Doctor of Laws by Cincinnati College in 1868. He was Moderator of the General Synod of 1843.

ALEXANDER WRIGHT:

Son of William and Eliza (Laughlin) Wright, was born in Craigs, County Antrim, Ireland, December 25, 1831. He received his early education in his native land, came to America in 1843, and settled in Eastern Pennsylvania, where he was engaged in farming and teaching for many years. By diligent study and constant teaching he prepared himself for College, graduating from Lafayette College in 1862. He studied theology in the Allegheny Seminary, and was licensed by the Pittsburgh Presbytery, May 23, 1867. Having preached with much acceptance for a short time in the Eastern part of the Church, he repaired to Minnesota, with the expectation of recovering his health which was seriously impaired. Finding no great benefit, he went