

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

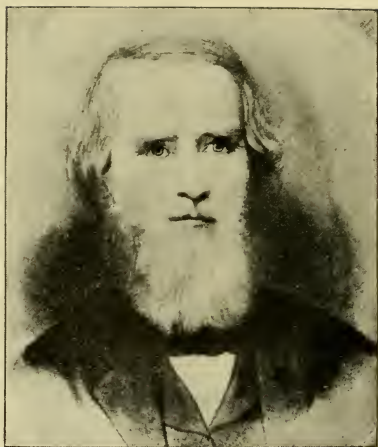
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SAMUEL WYLIE, D. D.

SAMUEL WYLIE, D. D.:

Son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Wylie) Wylie, was born in Moylarg, County Antrim, Ireland, February 19, 1790.* He was brought up under the pastoral care of the Rev. Simon Cameron, and received his early education in the best schools of his native land. He came to America in 1807, and settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he resumed his studies in the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1811. He studied theology in the Philadelphia Seminary, and was licensed by the Middle Presbytery, May 23, 1815. He visited many of the vacancies the following year, and spent some time in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1817, he went to the then "wilderness West," and explored new fields for missionary operations in the West and South. He was ordained *sine titulo* at the meeting of Synod, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 26, 1818, and was sent as a Missionary to Southern Illinois. He began labor in Randolph, and parts of St. Clair and Washington Counties, and organized several societies, which soon became flourishing congregations. He was installed pastor of the Bethel congregation, Eden, Randolph County, Illinois, June 19, 1821, where he spent the rest of his life in the self-sacrificing duties of a pastor and missionary. At the division of the Church in August, 1833, he became identified with the New School branch of the Covenanter Church, and many of his former flock remained with him, over whom he exercised pastoral charge until his resignation, on account of the infirmities of age, February 20, 1870. He died

* Items principally from the family. Church Records.

at his home in Sparta, Illinois, March 20, 1872. He married twice. First to Miss Margaret Millikin, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; second, to Mrs. Margaret (Black) Ewing, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was a faithful soldier of the Cross, and did much service for his Master in establishing His kingdom upon earth. He was a very acceptable preacher, and, in early times, large audiences of people waited upon his ministrations. He was not a bitter partisan, but always recognized the step which the body had taken with which he was connected. He was a fearless advocate for the cause of the slave, and enlisted the powers of his voice and pen in their emancipation. He served his Church in many important relations, and was recognized as a man of influence, and an able divine. He published a "History of the Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Southern Illinois," in the *Presbyterian Historical Almanac*, 1859. He was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Washington and Jefferson College in 1868. He was Moderator of the Synod of 1830, and the General Synod of 1850.

SAMUEL BROWN WYLIE, D. D.:

Son of Adam and Margaret (Brown) Wylie, was born in Moylurg, County Antrim, Ireland, May 21, 1773.* He received the rudiments of a thorough classical education in the vicinity of his home, and entered the University of Glasgow, Scotland, where he distinguished himself as a scholar, and graduated with the honorary degree of Master of Arts in 1797. He began teaching a school in Ballymena, Ireland, but was com-

* Principally from Sprague's Annals.