

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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the originators of the *New York Observer*, and a valuable contributor.

**Coyle, Rev. Robert F.**, was born in the county of Northumberland, Province of Ontario (Dominion of Canada), July 28th, 1850. He graduated from Wabash College, Ind., in the class of 1877, and filled the position of Tutor in the same Institution for one year. He studied theology at Auburn Seminary; was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, April 12th, 1879; was ordained by the Presbytery of Fort Dodge, Iowa, October 1st, 1879, and was installed pastor over the Church of Fort Dodge, in October, 1881. Here his labors have been signally blessed. Mr. Coyle's sermons bear the mark of scholarly preparation, yet he preaches without manuscript. His presentation of truth is doubly powerful, because along with eloquent, aggressive, logical argument, there is ever manifest the deep pathos and tender love and interest of the speaker. He preaches from the heart as well as from the intellect. He has the strong attachment of his people.

**Craig, Rev. John**, was born in Ireland, September 21st, 1710, but educated in America. He was licensed by Donegal Presbytery, August 30th, 1738, and was sent to Deer Creek (now Churchville, Md.), and to West Conococheague. He spent the Summer in those places, and Conewago and Opequhon. West Conococheague called him, in the Fall of 1739, but he declined a settlement in that charge. Mr. Craig was sent, at the close of 1739, to Opequhon, Irish Tract, and other places in Western Virginia. He was "the commencer of the Presbyterian service in Augusta." He gathered two congregations in the south part of the Manor, now Augusta county, and in April, 1740, received a call from the congregation of Augusta and Tinkling Spring, where he was ordained and installed, September 3d, 1740. He resigned the charge of Tinkling Spring, in November, 1754, but remained pastor of Augusta till his death, April 21st, 1774. Mr. Craig was a man mighty in the Scriptures, "in perils oft, in labors abundant," for the gospel. Those who knew him held his memory in the highest veneration.

**Craig, John Newton, D. D.**, son of George Evans and Matilda Guthrie Craig, was born in Rockingham county, Va., May 14th, 1831. Though born in Rockingham county, his family, on both sides, have been for more than a century identified with Augusta county, Va. In his boyhood he had for several years a business training. Having graduated at Washington College (now Washington and Lee University) in Va., he was for one year Principal of a male academy at Baxter Brook, Va. His studies were then pursued for two years in the University of Va., for two years in Union Theological Seminary, Va., and for one year in the Theological Seminary in Columbia, S. C. Leaving the Seminary in 1869, he became pastor of the churches of Lancaster C. H., Waxhaw and Douglass, an intelligent and influen-

tial charge in Lancaster county, S. C., and continued there, with the exception of a brief interval of absence on duty, until called to the pastorate of the Church at Holly Springs, Mississippi, in 1870. From that pastorate he was unanimously elected by the Southern General Assembly, in session at Lexington, Ky., in 1883, to be its Secretary of Home Missions.

As a preacher, his controlling thought has been to teach the *truth*, and this he does with directness and power. As a pastor, his genial manner and sympathetic nature endeared him, not only to the congregation, but to the community, daily widening and strengthening an influence extending to all classes of the people. He enters upon his new field of labor in the prime of life, in robust health, and in command of that zeal and industry which should surely work to the extension of "the kingdom."

**Craig, Willis Green, D. D.**, son of William Craig, M. D., who had served as a Surgeon in the U. S.



WILLIS GREEN CRAIG, D. D.

Army in the war of 1812, was born on his father's plantation, near Danville, Kentucky, September 24th, 1834. While yet a mere lad, he entered Centre College, at Danville, Kentucky, and was graduated in June, 1851, three months before he was seventeen. For the next seven years he was associated with his brother in the management of a large plantation. In the Fall of 1858 he entered Danville Theological Seminary, where he enjoyed the instructions of Drs. Breckinridge and Humphrey. He was licensed in the Spring of 1861, and commenced his ministerial labors in Keokuk, Iowa, April 1st, 1862, with the First Westminster Presbyterian Church, as pastor of which he was ordained and installed the following