

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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in special regard by evangelical Christians, as an able defender of orthodox faith. His sermons are remarkable for strong and lucid argument, beautiful imagery and purity of style. To his fondness for and familiarity with the classics may be traced the fine command of language and elegant diction that characterize his pulpit oratory and contributions to Church papers. He has, in an eminent degree, the *rare gift* of saying, on special occasions, that which is most appropriate and forcible.

Kirkpatrick, Rev. John Lycan, D.D., was born, January 20th, 1813, in Mecklenburg county, N. C., of pious Presbyterian parents, who were members of Providence Church, by whose pastor, Rev. James Wallis, he was baptized.

When about four years old, he removed, with his



REV. JOHN LYCAN KIRKPATRICK, D.D.

parents, to Morgan county, Ga., and thence, in 1827, to De Kalb county. At thirteen years of age he went to reside with his uncle, Rev. John Kirkpatrick, in Cumberland county, Va., and attended a classical school there for two years. In 1830 he entered Franklin College, at Athens, Ga. The main building being burned, he went, the next Fall, to Hampden-Sidney College, Va., and graduated there, with distinction, in September, 1832. After teaching two years at Charlotte Court House, Va., he entered Union Theological Seminary at Hampden-Sidney, Va., January, 1835. Soon after he was formally taken under the care of West Hanover Presbytery, and by them licensed in March, 1837, and in November following ordained and installed pastor of the Second Church, in Lynchburg, Va. In 1841, he accepted a

call from the Church in Gainesville, Ala., and was installed pastor by the Presbytery of Tuscaloosa, in the Spring of 1842, and held that position until called to the Glebe Street Church, Charleston, S. C., where he removed in the Spring of 1853, and was installed by the Presbytery of Charleston in the Spring of 1854.

His labors in Alabama were abundant, faithful, and greatly blessed. The Gainesville Church enjoyed several extensive revivals under his ministry, and was largely built up. It became one of the strongest, best organized and most efficient churches in the Synod of Alabama, and was by far the most liberal in the support of the various enterprises of the Church. In the same spirit of liberality they generously allowed and encouraged him in extending his eminently popular and able administrations to other churches, and to destitute neighborhoods, and thus greatly enlarged the sphere of his usefulness, the grateful memory and precious fruits of which remain to this day. His pastoral work in Charleston was highly appreciated, and aided much in building up the young church which he served. He is an able and accomplished preacher, instructive, earnest, tender, and in many ways attractive. Having a clear, penetrating and well balanced mind, a sound judgment, an extensive knowledge of men and affairs, and an *uncommon* share of *common sense*, he became a most valuable presbyter. Without compromising principle, or the interests of the Church, he was peculiarly skilled in the solution of intricate questions and adjusting conflicting views. He has been a regular and a working member of Presbytery and Synod, and generally entrusted with the most important matters. He has been often a member of the General Assembly—in 1846, at Philadelphia; in 1854, at Buffalo, N. Y.—where he prepared the "Narrative of Religion." Then after the separation, of the Second Southern Assembly, at Montgomery, Alabama, of which he was the Moderator, in 1862; of the three following and of three others since—confirming the estimate given above of his eminent ability as an ecclesiastical counsellor.

During his pastorate in Charleston, S. C., he was for four years the editor of the *Southern Presbyterian*, a weekly religious journal. He resigned that charge in 1860, to undertake an agency for the Columbia Theological Seminary, which, however, was arrested by the Civil War.

His scholarship is thorough and varied, and has the endorsement of the general public. In 1852 the University of Alabama conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1845 he was elected by the Synod of Alabama Professor in Oglethorpe University, but declined. In 1860 he was elected President of Davidson College, N. C., at that time in a prosperous condition, and removed thither January, 1861. The Civil War, of course, greatly reduced the attendance of students. In 1865 he was elected

Professor of Moral Philosophy and Evidences of Christianity in Washington College (now Washington and Lee University), Lexington, Va., then rising into special prominence, in consequence of the accession of General Robert E. Lee to the Presidency. He accepted and still fills this position. His relations with General Lee were of the most intimate and confidential nature, and his services and rare administrative talents often called into requisition by him.

Whilst residing in Gainesville and Charleston, he received formal calls or tentative overtures from various churches and institutions of learning, such as Petersburg, Va., Princeton, N. J., Mobile, Ala., Baltimore, St. Louis, Louisville, Union Theological Seminary, Hampden-Sidney and University of Alabama, all unsought, either directly or indirectly, and all promptly declined. He is a man of great purity and elevation of character, firm in principle, and yet fair, impartial and generous. He has a fine physique, of commanding appearance, and dignified and courteous manners.

Kirkpatrick, Major Thomas Jellis, is an eminent lawyer of Lynchburg, Va.; is now, perhaps, a little over fifty years of age; but in all the elements of professional skill and ability, time has rather matured than worn his power. He has often been a member of the Virginia Legislature, and there has been ever distinguished for manly and upright views of conduct. He was a son of Rev. John Kirkpatrick, of Cumberland, and at an early age became a communicant, and very soon afterward was elected a ruling elder in the First Church, Lynchburg, where he has ever been found the judicious and trusted aid of the pastor in every good word and work. For twenty years or more he has been prominent in his zealous labors in behalf of the colored people, meeting a Sabbath school composed of them every Sabbath. He gave a hearty and efficient co-operation with the pastors of the Presbyterian churches in Lynchburg in organizing a Presbyterian church for colored people, procuring a pastor and a comfortable and neat house of worship. Though this organization has superseded his labors in the colored Sunday school, he still gives his efficient aid toward every enterprise for the spiritual welfare of the benighted children of Africa. In the courts of the Church his voice is often heard, in eloquent and persuasive words, sustaining all the Christian enterprises of the day and plans for the right ordering of the work of the Church. But for insuperable obstacles, he would probably, in early life, have entered the ministry. But the Church needs scores of just such elders, mighty in word and deed, for her interests, and examples to men in secular life of the entire consistency of a true Christian life with the proper performance of the duties of a citizen in the high places of the State.

Kneass, Strickland, was born in Philadelphia, July 29th, 1821. He was a son of William Kneass, who was for many years engraver for the Mint.

When quite young he decided on civil engineering as his profession, and assisted in the construction of the Delaware and Schuylkill Canal and the Philadelphia and Wilmington Railroad. When this latter work was finished he entered the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, at Troy, N. Y., where he graduated, with the highest honor, in 1839. For a time he was engaged as surveyor on a projected railroad between Harrisburg and Pittsburg, but the enterprise was abandoned. He became connected with the Naval Bureau of Engineering, where he made some important surveys in fixing the northwest boundary line, and in 1847 became one of the assistants of J. Edgar Thompson in the construction of the Pennsylvania Railroad. He was subsequently associate engineer of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, but resigned, in 1855, to become Chief Engineer and Surveyor of Philadelphia, which position he filled until 1872. During his administration the surveys for the drainage system of the city were made. He also prepared the plans for the South street and Chestnut street bridges over the Schuylkill. In 1872 he accepted the position of assistant to the President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which he filled to the time of his death. Mr. Kneass died January 15th, 1881. He was a member of the American Philosophical Society, the Franklin Society and the American Society of Civil Engineers. He was a director in several of the Pennsylvania branch lines. He was a member of the Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, and was universally respected as an upright gentleman and good citizen. His ability in the profession he adopted was never questioned, and he was considered one of the ablest chief engineers the city ever had. His work was marked by extreme care and accuracy and conscientious exactness.

Kneeland, Rev. Martin Dwelle, is the second son of Dr. Jonathan and Miriam Dwelle Kneeland, and was born in Thorn Hill, N. Y., September 24th, 1848. Prepared for college in the Cazenovia Seminary. Graduated from Hamilton College, in 1869, as an honor man, delivering the literary oration; taught one year at Southold, L. I., as principal of the Preparatory School. Graduated from Auburn Theological Seminary in 1873. He was ordained pastor of Presbyterian Church at Waterloo, N. Y., June 1st, 1873, by the Presbytery of Geneva. Remained in Waterloo until August 1st, 1882, during which time three hundred and two united with the church, of whom two hundred and twenty-six were upon profession of faith. October 27th, 1882, Mr. Kneeland was installed, by the Presbytery of Buffalo, pastor of the Church at Fredonia, where, by his consecrated eloquence and zeal, he has already accomplished most excellent results in that enterprising village. The *Fredonia Presbyterian*, a monthly paper, is published by Mr. Kneeland in the interest of the church, and is a power in the community for morals and good government, as well as for orthodox religion.