

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

INCLUDING THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN ASSEMBLIES.

✓
ALFRED NEVIN, D.D., LL.D., EDITOR,

ASSISTED BY

B. M. SMITH, D.D.,
W. E. SCHENCK, D.D.,
L. G. BARBOUR, D.D.,
B. M. PALMER, D.D.,
WM. BLACKWOOD, D.D., LL.D.,
J. RUMPLE, D.D.,
T. L. CUYLER, D.D.,

ELLIOTT E. SWIFT, D.D.,
M. B. GRIER, D.D.,
E. P. HUMPHREY, D.D., LL.D.,
J. W. DULLES, D.D.,
J. B. STRATTON, D.D.,
R. M. PATTERSON, D.D.,
J. I. BROWNSON, D.D.,

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.

ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1884, BY D. R. B. N., FOR THE PRESBYTERIAN ENCYCLOPÆDIA PUBLISHING CO.,
IN THE OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRESBYTERIAN PUBLISHING CO.,
No. 1510 CHESTNUT STREET.

Mr. White has the degree of A. M. from Wittenberg College. Although much engaged in organizing or reorganizing churches and building church edifices, a thousand persons have united with the churches under his care.

White, John, Sr. was the eldest child of Thomas and Jane (Reynolds) White, of Scotch-Irish descent, and was born near Emmittsburg, Frederick county, Maryland, in the year 1764. His education was received in the schools and academies of his native county. In early life he engaged in agricultural pursuits at "Harmony Grove," near Frederick city, Md., where he lived the remainder of his life. He united with the Presbyterian Church in Frederick city a short time after its organization, and was elected and ordained a ruling elder of the same church in 1820, during the pastorate of Rev. Patrick Davidson. He served the church in this office until his death, which occurred October 7th, 1833.

Mr. White was a man of sterling worth to the community in which he lived and to the church of which he was a model member, faithful elder, and liberal supporter. He was a Christian of devoted piety. His son, Mr. William White, has been a deacon for forty years in the same church in which he was an elder; and his daughter, Miss Sarah A. White, like her father, is its most generous contributor, and one of its most faithful and devoted members.

Rev. Joseph Smith, D. D., an eminent divine, who was Mr. White's pastor when he died, wrote concerning him: "Few have surpassed him for a life of industry, strict integrity, and generous kindness and hospitality of disposition. . . . The foundation on which he had placed his immortal hopes did not fail him in the hours of sickness and at the approach of death. The light of peace and Christian hope broke in upon his soul and shone steadily and calmly, as he entered the dark valley. . . . And thus, in the full exercise of his reason and under the sunshine of the Holy Ghost, he 'slept in Jesus.' "

White, Rev. Nathan Grier, was born at Fagg's Manor, Pa., April 11th, 1810. He graduated at Dickinson College, Pa., in 1828. After leaving college he was engaged for a time in teaching. He studied theology at Princeton Seminary. He was ordained by the Presbytery of Carlisle, June 11th, 1834, and installed pastor of the churches of McConnellsburg, Green Hill and Wells Valley, Pa. These churches he served faithfully and successfully for thirty years. In 1864 he took charge of the Church at Williamsburg, Pa., where his earnest labors were blessed. This pastorate he resigned in 1883. Mr. White is a man of modest, retiring disposition, but of decided ability. He has been very faithful during his ministry of fifty years, and is highly esteemed by his brethren.

White, Rev. Robert, was born in Montgomery county, Pa., about the year 1785, received his classi-

cal education at Norristown, under the direction of General Porter; studied theology under the Rev. Nathan Grier, of the Forks of Brandywine; became pastor of the Church at Fagg's Manor in 1810, and after a faithful and successful ministry there, of twenty-five years, died September 20th, 1835. He published a sermon designed to prove that Job was Melchisedec. His successor in the ministry, the Rev. Alfred Hamilton, said of him: "His people regarded him with great affection, and thought him, as he was in truth, a laborious, tender-hearted, prayerful pastor."

White, Rev. Sylvanus, was born in 1701; graduated at Harvard University in 1723, and was ordained by a Council, November 17th, 1727, pastor of the Church of Southampton, where, amid confusions and divisions growing out of the great revival, he seems to have dwelt in peace among a united people. After a ministry of fifty-five years, in which he was honored and revered, and happy in the affections of a large and warmly attached congregation, he died, October 22d, 1782.

White, Rev. William P., was born in Honeybrook, Pa., in 1840. He was brought into the church early in life. He partly prepared himself for Amherst College, where he graduated in 1867. He graduated at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1870, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Donegal in 1869. He was called to be pastor of the Church at Plymouth, Pa., and ordained and installed by the Presbytery of Lackawanna in 1870. In this relation he continued thirteen years, with the divine blessing on his labors. He was stated clerk of the Presbytery. He has been a valuable correspondent of the *Presbyterian*, and a contributor for various papers. A number of sermons have been published by him. He was an earnest advocate of Temperance and co-laborer of Rev. Thomas P. Hunt in Wyoming Valley. In April, 1883, he was called to his present promising charge at Mt. Airy, Philadelphia. Mr. White is a vigorous writer, an able preacher, a good pastor, and a very useful member of the judicatories of the church.

White, William Spottswood, D. D., was born in the county of Hanover, Va., July 30th, 1800. His parents were connected with the congregation gathered in that part of the colony, by the Rev. Samuel Davies. His collegiate education was at Hampden-Sidney, and while a student of that Institution, the ministry of its venerable President, Dr. Moses Hoge, was blessed in awakening such conviction of sin as led to his conversion. His theological instruction was under the Rev. John H. Rice, D. D., and he was one of the first students under that eminent Professor of Theology in Union Seminary. He was licensed to preach the gospel by the Presbytery of East Hanover, in 1827. His first field of labor was in the counties of Nottoway, Amelia, Lunenburg and Dinwiddie, during which time his ordination took place. In 1832, he removed to Scottsville, and be-

came pastor of the church in that place. Here his labors, as before, were greatly prospered. After two years he accepted an appointment as General Agent of the Virginia (a branch of the American) Tract Society, with a special reference to the "Volume Enterprise." After two years of very arduous and successful labor, he was settled as pastor in Charlottesville. During his residence there he conducted a large and prosperous female school, and was twice elected Chaplain to the University of Virginia. In 1848 he became pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Lexington, which was his home to the end of life.

If this outline were filled with the details which might be supplied, it would present before us the portrait of a beloved, devoted servant of Christ, worthy of the admiration of all, and to be held in everlasting remembrance. Dr. White was a man of no common endowments. With no relish for subtle speculations of any sort, he had a solid, vigorous understanding, a thoroughly good common sense, a wide knowledge of men and the springs of human action, together with a remarkable tact in finding access to them. He was an able, earnest and most successful preacher, with a rare gift for illustrating the subject in hand, both by similitudes and by incidents from general history, and by those which had come under his own observation. In every field in which he was called to labor his ministry had an ample seal of the Divine blessing. His fine social qualities, together with his tender sympathy, amiable, pacific disposition and fervent piety, endeared him to all as a friend and a pastor. He was an eminently wise, good and loving husband and father, and his household was a scene of domestic affection. On account of failing health his pastoral charge was resigned some time before his death, which took place November 29th, 1873. It was full of Christian peace. His memory is precious, and his name remains among the good and the great which so profusely adorn and enrich the history of the Synod of Virginia.

Whiting, Rev. Albert, was born in Milton, Saratoga county, N. Y., May 27th, 1847, and was a son of Jonathan and Hester Maria (Gilbert) Whiting. He was graduated at Union College in 1869, and in the same year entered Princeton Seminary, graduating in 1873. He was licensed by New Brunswick Presbytery, April 10th, 1872, and was ordained by the Presbytery of Perth, then in connection with the Established Church of Scotland, at Perth, Lanark county, Ontario, Canada, July 30th, 1872. Mr. Whiting never labored in an organized church either as pastor or stated supply. In May, 1870, soon after his licensure, he began to preach in remote settlements among the Canadian forests, and continued the same work during the Summers of 1871 and 1872, his field covering parts of Lanark, Fontenac and Renfrew counties, Ontario, where he preached in log school-houses, in shanties, and sometimes in the open woods. But his heart was in the work of

Foreign Missions. Having been accepted by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, he sailed for China in the Summer of 1874. After spending a few months at Suchow, after his arrival, he went with his wife and the Rev. Charles Leman, to establish a station at Nanking. The difficulties were many, but he overcame them all; made warm friends of those who opposed him; gained the respect of his Mandarin neighbors, and was accomplishing great good. Then came the terrible famine in Northern China. American Christians responded to the appeals for help, and the missionaries were called on to disburse the funds. In March, 1878, a call was made for volunteers to go into the province of Shansi and carry relief to the dying multitudes. Mr. Whiting at once offered his services, although fully appreciating the risks. His wife seconded his plans. Having reached Fai Yuen, he was attacked by typhus fever, under which he rapidly sank, and died April 25th, 1878, in the thirty-first year of his age, very peacefully and resignedly. He was a noble young man, of strong faith and earnest consecration to the Master's work.

Whiting, John, was born in Luray, Page county, Va., March 4th, 1811. In his early manhood he removed to Montgomery, Alabama, and was a distinguished ornament of the city and State. He was for twenty-five years an eminently useful member, and for twenty-three years a highly honored and beloved ruling elder, of the Presbyterian Church in Montgomery, Ala. When he was made the hopeful subject of renewing grace, he devoted himself with determined purpose to the service of his redeeming Lord, by a public profession of his faith, and from that period his life was one uniform exhibition of modest piety and beautifully consistent Christian deportment. When elected to the responsible office of a ruling elder, he gave himself up to the high duties which that important position involved, with a diligence, a steadiness and a perseverance which never faltered, ever interested in the peace, unity and purity of the Church, and ever ardent in his aspirations for the promotion of vital piety and the extension of the gospel. Though naturally modest, unobtrusive, and even diffident of himself, he was nevertheless a highly intelligent, a firm and unflinching advocate for everything that was true, just, honest, pure, lovely and of good report; and constantly set his face, like a flint, not only against all errors in doctrine, but against every form of immorality in life. Hence, in the church, the Sunday school, the social prayer meeting and in the community his influence was always felt, and was of the most salutary and beneficial character.

In compliance with the wishes of the public, Mr. Whiting accepted and undertook the management of the South and North Alabama Railroad, an enterprise which was regarded greatly important to the future welfare of the State of Alabama. To improve the