

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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"*Christ the Teacher of Men*," and "*The New Life, not the Higher Life*." He has also contributed articles to the *Southern Presbyterian*, *Southern* and *North American Reviews*, to the *Catholic Presbyterian*, and frequently to the Church papers. He was a member of the Prophetic Conference in New York in 1878, and assisted in drafting and reported the doctrinal testimony adopted by the conference. He has twice sat in the General Assembly, and bore a prominent part in the establishment of fraternal relations between the Northern and Southern Assemblies. His published works vindicate the character of his preaching, which is that of clear, full, strong and simple statement of gospel truth.

Plumer, William Swan, D. D., LL.D., justly ranks among the great and good men of the Church to which the labors of his life were devoted. He was born July 26th, 1802, at Griersburg (now Darlington), Beaver county, Pa. After graduating at Washington College, Va., he entered Princeton Seminary, becoming a member of the class matriculated in 1824-5. He was licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, June 14th, 1826, and was ordained an evangelist by the Presbytery of Orange, May 19th, 1827.

From September, 1826, to June, 1829, he was employed as an evangelist, in Southern Virginia and North Carolina. During this time he spent ten months and a half at Danville, and organized the Presbyterian Church there, and eleven months in Warrenton, N. C., where he also organized a Church. In June, 1829, he became stated supply of Briery Church, Va., where he labored sixteen months. He was pastor of the Tabb Street Church, Petersburg, Va., from July 10th, 1831, until September 19th, 1834; pastor of the first Church of Richmond, Va., from October 19th, 1834, until November 3d, 1846; and pastor of the Franklin Street Church, Baltimore, Md., from April 28th, 1847, until September 10th, 1854. His next pastoral charge was that of the Central Church at Allegheny, Pa., which continued from January 17th, 1855, until September 19th, 1862. After an interval of three years he was installed pastor of the Second Church of Pottsville, Pa., November 19th, 1865, and continued in this relation until January 2d, 1867. In January, 1867, he began to reside at Columbia, S. C., preaching, while a Professor in the Seminary, extensively in that and adjacent States.

In 1837 Dr. Plumer founded, and for eight years was sole editor and proprietor of, *The Watchman of the South*, in Richmond, Va. In 1838 he was largely instrumental in founding the Institution for the Blind and Deaf and Dumb, in Staunton, Va. In 1854 he was elected Professor of Didactic and Pastoral Theology in the Western Theological Seminary, at Allegheny, Pa., which post he filled until 1862. In 1862 he was elected Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology in the Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C., and filled that chair until 1875, when, at his own suggestion, he was transferred to the Chair of

Historic, Casuistic and Pastoral Theology in the same Institution, and retained that position until 1880, when, a few months before his death, the Seminary was closed, from a lack of funds.

Dr. Plumer was a very voluminous author. His works amounted to over twenty-five volumes, besides a very large number of tracts, sermons, leaflets, etc. In 1838 he was Moderator of the General Assembly (O. S.), and in 1871 Moderator of the General Assembly (Southern). His life was one of great earnestness and usefulness. As a pastor, preacher, professor, author and Christian, he was eminent. His tall and erect form, white hair, beaming eye, expressive countenance, and deep and sonorous voice, added greatly to the impressiveness of his Scriptural, instructive, experimental, searching, and, at times, impassioned



WILLIAM SWAN PLUMER, D.D.

preaching. As he advanced in years, his mental powers seemed to brighten and mellow, and he never ceased his varied and active labors until he was called to bid farewell to earth. He died in Baltimore, Md., October 22d, 1880, in the seventy-ninth year of his age. His end was a glorious triumph of faith. His utterances were full of faith in Christ, of love for Him, and of confident and joyful hope.

Pole Green and Samuel Davies Church. In Hanover county, Va., ten miles from the city of Richmond, and a few rods from the main road, more than a hundred years ago, stood Pole Green Church. It was built not later than the year 1756, on a piece of land about three acres in size, given to the church by a Mr. Whitlocke, who resided in the neighborhood. It was one of the first Presbyterian churches planted