

SKETCHES OF THE MINISTERS

Of the

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF NORTH AMERICA

From 1888 to 1930

With supplemental sketches of ministers living in 1888 whose records were carried forward in Glasgow's History up to that date; together with sketches of the institutions, missions and organizations of the Church, and lists of missionaries who have served the Church during this period; containing also 42 portraits of Moderators of Synod besides the cuts of the institutions of the Church; also lists of Presbyteries and Congregations together with the dates of organization and disorganization of the same during the period covered by this volume.



By

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THE REV. WILLIAM W. CARITHERS, D. D.
Elected Moderator of Synod in the year 1902
In the Syracuse R. P. Church
Syracuse, New York

WILLIAM WORK CARITHERS, D. D.

W. W. CARITHERS is among those whose biographical sketch appears in Glasgow's volume. In the year 1888, when this history was published he was in charge of the Wilkinsburg congregation. Soon after this an earnest effort was made to find some one to take up work as a Missionary among the Indians in the old Indian Territory. After repeated appointments had failed, the Board settled unanimously upon one of their own members. About the same time the subject of this sketch and his beloved wife had come, independently, to the conclusion that they must go to this work if the Lord directed them in that way. This action of the Board was taken to be the call of God and the consecrated couple with their little daughter Mary, started toward their Western field of service, that was to be their home for so many years and that was to take all the strength of each. On January 14, 1889, he was released from the Wilkinsburg congregation and soon after removed with his family to a location near Fort Sill, Oklahoma. After the opening other towns sprung up and Apache is the name of the post office address of the Mission since that time. For thirty-five years Mr. Carithers and his noble wife were the controlling factors in this great work. No sacrifice was too great and no effort too much. Not only that immediate community but a territory fifty miles in diameter came under the moulding influence of these lives and the institution that grew under their care. But such efforts can not be given without cost. In twenty-five years Mrs. Carithers had given all that she had and triumphantly entered into her rest to share eternity with her beloved Lord on September 12, 1913. Mr. Carithers

continued his lonely labors in his chosen field for ten years longer, but in April of 1923 the critical condition of his health made it necessary for him to leave at once and go east to the home of his daughter, Mrs. D. C. Ward, where he could be under the best of medical care. In the years that have followed his health has improved somewhat yet not sufficiently to admit of his return. Still following "The Jesus Road" he goes ever forward toward the Better Country ahead. In the year 1902 he was made Moderator of Synod, and in the year 1923 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Geneva. He was for years the efficient chairman of the Temperance Committee of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

JOHN W. FENTON CARLISLE

JOHN W. F. CARLISLE, whose historical sketch appears in Glasgow's History, was at the time of the publishing of that volume without a stated charge, having just resigned from the New Alexandria congregation, and receiving his release on January 26, 1888. Having received a call from the Newburgh congregation, where he had united with the church and where he had been raised and the congregation from which his own father had but recently been taken by death, he accepted the call and on June 26, 1888, was installed pastor there. He remained in this charge until the time of his death which occurred April 5, 1928, after 40 years in the one pastorate. This congregation has been almost unique in its experience with pastors. Here father and son held the charge for 78 successive years, leaving behind them an undying influence in a great com-