

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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during his life, and several of them remembered him, in their dying testaments, by small bequests.

Boyd, Andrew Hunter Holmes, D. D., the second son of General Elisha Boyd, of Berkeley county, Va., was born at Boydsville, near Martinsburg, in 1814. He received his academic education at Martinsburg and Middleburg; when fourteen years old, entered the junior class of Jefferson College, and graduated with distinction in 1830. Shortly after entering college he joined the Presbyterian Church, and resolved to preach the gospel. After graduation in Jefferson he spent two years at New Haven, to perfect himself in particular studies, completed a regular course of theological education thereafter, at Princeton, and subsequently attended lectures delivered by Dr. Chalmers and Sir William Hamilton, in Edinburgh. He was licensed to preach the gospel at Woodstock, by the Presbytery of Winchester, in 1837; entered upon his first charge over the churches of Leesburg and Middleburg in 1838; accepted a call to Harrisonburg in 1840, and to Winchester in 1842. His valuable ministry of twenty-three years in this last church was terminated, after a mournful and protracted illness, December 16th, 1865.

Dr. Boyd was a man of fine intellect. He was endowed with quick and clear perception, a sound, discriminating and comprehensive judgment, and especially with strong and active reasoning faculties. He was a man of indefatigable mental industry throughout his life, constantly accumulating valuable knowledge, miscellaneous and professional. His life-power lay largely in those distinguished moral principles, which were every way equal to his mental endowments. He was a man of strong feelings, vehement promptings, inflexible principles. His character was remarkably well balanced, both in its moral feelings and in its active principles. He was characterized by pre-eminent simplicity, independence and intrepidity. This last virtue he exhibited unostentatiously throughout life. In principle everybody felt that he was benevolent, just, true, firm and modest; in practice everybody knew him to be earnest and studious, and steady and reliable. He left his mark amongst men, and wrought a great work for the Church of God.

Bracken, Thos. A., D. D., son of Henry and Martha Bracken, was born in Washington county, Pa., August 14th, 1820. His grandfather, Thomas Bracken, was one of the first trustees of Canonsburg Academy, afterwards Jefferson College. Dr. Bracken is sprung from a family of preachers, two of his paternal uncles, four of his brothers-in-law, and several consins having entered the Presbyterian ministry. Dr. Bracken was graduated at Jefferson College, Pa., in 1842; studied theology in New Albany Seminary, Ind.; was ordained by Upper Missouri Presbytery and installed pastor of Prairie Church, in Lafayette county, Mo., in 1849; installed pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Independence,

Mo., in 1855, and took pastoral charge of the Second Presbyterian Church, Lebanon, Ky., in 1867, where he still remains.

Sprung from the Scotch-Irish stock, Dr. Bracken maintains their sturdy adhesion to the Confession of Faith and the Form of Government, and their repugnance to latitudinarianism in doctrine, or laxity in morals. His mind is of a decidedly logical turn; he is fond of the epistle to the Romans, and of systematic views of theology. As a preacher he is Scriptural, sound, very much in earnest, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. As a pastor he has the happy faculty of attaching his people warmly to himself. Dr. Bracken is a strong advocate of education, and has been an active and liberal supporter of Central University, at Richmond, Ky.

Brackett, Gilbert Robbins, D. D., son of



GILBERT ROBBINS BRACKETT, D. D.

Charles and Lucy (Gay) Brackett, was born in the city of Newton, Mass., July 9th, 1833. Entered Amherst College in 1853; was compelled to leave before graduating, on account of ill health. Removing South in 1859, he entered the Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C., and graduated in May, 1862. Was licensed to preach by Bethel Presbytery, S. C. Ordained and installed pastor of Third Creek Church, Rowan county, N. C., May 14th, 1864. Became pastor of Seion Church, Winnsboro, S. C., June 5th, 1868. Accepted a call to the Second Presbyterian Church, Charleston, S. C., May, 1871, and, as the successor of the Rev. Dr. Thomas Smyth, who had served the church with great acceptance, devotion and distinction for forty years, was installed

pastor in June, 1872. In 1877 Davidson College, N. C., conferred upon Mr. Brackett the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

In the several pastoral relations which he has held, as in the large and important charge which he now administers, Dr. Brackett has been uniformly happy and successful. A close and eager student of all knowledge that may be made tributary to his sacred calling, he is an unwearied and faithful laborer in all its practical duties. Forcible, logical, eloquent and earnest in the pulpit, he is a pastor, wise, gentle, sympathetic and self-sacrificing. Admirably qualified to win distinction in letters, and often called upon for public addresses, his ambition is bounded by the desire to win souls. Whilst in pulpit preparation he will have none but "beaten oil for the lamps of the sanctuary," it is only that their light may shine upon his Master. Devoted, by intelligent conviction, to the polity and doctrines of his own Church, and ready always to uphold and defend them, he counts all as brethren who seek earnestly to follow the same Lord, though by ways unessentially different. Illustrating in himself the unselfish spirit of the gospel, he is the centre of a dear regard and affection from all, and especially from his brethren in the ministry, by whom he is equally honored and loved. Dr. Brackett is a frequent contributor to theological reviews, and many of his occasional sermons are in print. His memorial discourse upon the decease of his revered predecessor, Dr. Smyth, has been widely circulated and read.

Bradford, Hon. Benjamin Rush, second son of the Hon. Thomas Bradford, LL.D., and Elizabeth his wife, was born in Philadelphia, September 15th, 1813. His academical studies were conducted in Pittsfield, Mass. Owing to his delicate health he did not pass through a regular collegiate course. He resided three years in Dover, Del., where he resuscitated the old Presbyterian Church. He became a member of the Fifth Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, in 1831, and was one of the number of those young men who formed the nucleus of the Union Benevolent Society. In 1837 he removed to Mercer county, Pa., and in 1839 he settled on a farm near New Brighton, Pa. In 1848 he was elected an elder of the Beaver Falls Presbyterian Church, now called the First Presbyterian Church of New Brighton.

In 1849 Mr. Bradford was elected a Director of the Western Theological Seminary, and has remained a member of the Board ever since. He was one of the corporate members of the Board of Colportage when it was instituted in Pittsburg, and was elected a member of the same by the Synod of Erie. The degree of A. M. was conferred upon him by Jefferson College. He was a member of the General Assemblies of 1849, 1855 and 1860. In 1854 he was nominated as a candidate for Governor, on the American ticket, and at another election received the nomination for Lieutenant-Governor, on the Prohibition

ticket. Mr. Bradford has taken a great interest in the Sabbath-school cause, and was a scholar, teacher, and superintendent, for fifty years, and only under the failure of health has ceased from active labor in the Church and Sabbath School. He has been an active Temperance worker. His life has been one of Christian consistency and usefulness. During his early manhood, when his business duties required, he traveled some 18,000 miles on horseback, through Pennsylvania, as well as in Virginia, looking after large landed estates entrusted to his care, and while thus engaged, for the period of twenty-five years, had numerous land ejection cases and other suits in law, not one of which he lost, and for his mode of preparing which he received the eulogiums of Chief Justice Agnew, Judge Church, and others.

Brainerd, Rev. David, was born at Haddam, Conn., April 20th, 1718. At the age of twenty he entered on a course of learning in the house of Mr. Fiske, the minister of that place. He finished his preparation for college with his brother, the minister of Eastbury. In September, 1739, he entered Yale College. In the Spring of the same year in which he left college he commenced the study of theology, under the direction of the Rev. Jedediah Mills, of Ripton, Conn., and on the 20th of July following (1742), was licensed to preach by the Association of Ministers, holding its session at Danbury. From the commencement of his theological course he had felt a deep interest in the deplorable condition of the heathen, especially the aborigines of our own country; his heart burned to follow in the footsteps of the apostle Elliot, in bringing the gospel in contact with their darkened understandings, and accordingly, in the Autumn after he was licensed, he went to New York, by invitation from the correspondents of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and, after being duly examined, received a regular appointment from them as a missionary among the Indians.

Having now undertaken the missionary work, and thinking he should have no need among the Indians for the estate left him by his father, Mr. Brainerd assumed the expense of educating "a dear friend," Nehemiah Greenman, of Stratford, for the ministry. He was soon put to learning, and was supported by Mr. Brainerd till his death, Mr. Greenman having gone through his third year. He was, for many years, the pastor of Pittsgrove, in West Jersey.

The first scene of Mr. Brainerd's missionary labors was at an Indian village called Kaunaumeck, about half-way between Stockbridge and Albany. Here he lived in the woods nearly a year, lodging, during a part of the time, in a wigwam with the Indians, and subsisting altogether upon Indian fare. Having been ordained by the Presbytery of New York, at Newark, N. J., in June, 1744, he immediately stationed himself near the Forks of the Delaware, in Pennsylvania, where he labored, with comparatively little apparent