

# SKETCHES OF THE MINISTERS

Of the

## REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF NORTH AMERICA

From 1888 to 1930

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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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## JOHN CALVIN KNOX FARIS

J. C. K. FARIS, whose biographical sketch appears in Glasgow's volume, was, in the year 1888, left by that account in the pastorate of the Topsham congregation, Orange County, Vermont. He was released from this charge at the end of four or five years and transferred to Pittsburgh Presbytery June 1, 1893. He resided in Beaver Falls for some time that he might educate the younger members of his family. After this he moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he died on November 17, 1916. He did not preach much in the latter years of his life, but served as the teacher of a Bible Class for years. It was said of him by those who knew him that he was noted for his gentleness and Christian courtesy to all. He was a man careful to maintain that evenness of disposition and temper which marks the Christian gentleman as perhaps nothing else can.

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## JAMES MELVILLE FARIS

J. M. FARIS, whose historical account appears in Glasgow's History, was, in the year 1888, recorded there as being pastor of the congregation at New Concord, Ohio. He remained in this pastorate for about 12 years when he was released and supplied for a time. On June 17, 1897, he was installed pastor of the Sterling, New York, congregation. He was released from Sterling on June 1, 1900. After supplying for a year he was transferred to Lakes Presbytery and became stated supply in the Belle Center and Bellefontaine, Ohio, congregations. For a number of years he continued to fill the position of stated supply in one or

other of these congregations. On June 22, 1906, he was installed pastor of the Bellefontaine, Ohio, congregation. About the year 1914 he was released from the official relation of pastor but continued to do the work of a pastor as stated supply in the congregation until his death, which occurred October 12, 1918, at the age of 78 years. His body was laid to rest in the New Concord Cemetery, New Concord, Ohio. His death came as a result of a stroke. He was a man noted for faithfulness and for humility. He was a soldier in the Civil War and a soldier of the King of Heaven in His war against wrong.

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#### WILLIAM OTIS FERGUSON

W. O. FERGUSON, son of William Alexander and Margaret (Hobson) Ferguson, was born October 17, 1877, at Hopkinton, Iowa. He was baptized the following year at that place. He united with the Reformed Presbyterian Church at Hopkinton, Iowa, on May 20, 1897, the Rev. E. M. Coleman moderating the session at the time. The congregation was without a pastor that year. He attended the Public Schools of his home town and took his classical studies in Lenox College situated in his home town. He graduated from this institution in the year 1904. He entered the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary in Allegheny (now North Side Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania, the same fall and completed his theological studies in 1907. He was licensed by Iowa Presbytery on May 1, 1906. He was ordained to the Gospel Ministry by Pittsburgh Presbytery at Rose Point October 22, 1907, and installed over the Slippery Rock (now Rose Point) congregation at the same