



HISTORY

OF THE

Reformed Presbyterian Church

IN

AMERICA:

WITH SKETCHES OF ALL HER MINISTRY, CONGREGATIONS,  
MISSIONS, INSTITUTIONS, PUBLICATIONS, Etc.,  
AND EMBELLISHED WITH OVER  
FIFTY PORTRAITS AND  
ENGRAVINGS.

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BY

W. MELANCTHON GLASGOW,  
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## WILLIAM SLOANE :

Son of William and Jane (Robinson) Sloane, was born near Larne, County Antrim, Ireland, May 12, 1787.\* He was peculiarly studious, apt to learn, and pursued the reading and study of the "Scottish Divines" with pleasure at ten years of age. He attended the schools of his native parish and finished the course in the Larne Academy in 1808. For nine years he was engaged in teaching, and also acquired extensive knowledge of literature and theology. He came to America in 1817, studied theology under the direction of the Rev. Dr. J. R. Willson, of Coldenham, New York, and was licensed by the Northern Presbytery, April 4, 1820. He was ordained by the same Presbytery, installed pastor of the congregation of Topsham, Orange County, Vermont, October 14, 1820, and resigned this charge, April 17, 1829. He was installed pastor of the united congregations of Greenfield and Londonderry, Ohio, November 16, 1829, and resigned, October 23, 1838. He was installed pastor of the Elkhorn congregation, Oakdale, Illinois, September 13, 1840, and resigned this charge on account of seriously impaired health, May 9, 1858. During the last five years of his life he preached occasionally as his health would permit. Although in comparatively good health the previous day, he was found dead in his bed on the morning of December 3, 1863. He married Miss Mary McNeice, of Carmany, Ireland, in 1816. He was not what is termed a popular preacher, for he was neither a rhetorician nor an orator, but he was always heard

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\* *R. P. & C.*, 1865, p. 184. *Life and Work of Dr. J. R. W. Sloane.*

with great pleasure by the spiritually minded. His style was concise, perspicuous and forcible; generally argumentative and illustrative. His great excellence in preaching consisted in a clear and honest presentation of the truth, followed by a happy application. His knowledge of the classics was extensive, and he was well read in theology, often giving instructions to young men preparing for the ministry. He was mighty in the Scriptures, and his prodigious memory assisted him greatly in his pulpit exercises. He was an ardent abolitionist, and a fearless advocate for the cause of the slave. He was frequently drawn into controversy upon the Arminian and Universalist heresies while preaching in New England, and did valiant service in exposing the unfruitful works of secret societies. He did not take a prominent part in Church courts, but was regarded as a faithful minister of Christ and piously devoted to the principles of the Covenanter Church.

#### ELLSWORTH MONTGOMERY SMITH:

Son of Robert J. and Mary (Carson) Smith, was born in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, April 18, 1862. In early life his parents removed to Staunton, Macoupin County, Illinois, where he received his early education, and graduated from Geneva College in 1883. He studied theology in the Allegheny Seminary, was licensed by the Pittsburgh Presbytery, April 14, 1886, and labored in Maine and New Brunswick. He was ordained by the Illinois Presbytery, and installed pastor of the united congregations of Staunton, Illinois, May 12, 1887, and St. Louis, Missouri, May 16, 1887, where he is in charge. He was an editor of the *College Cabinet*, two years, beginning in 1881.