

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.

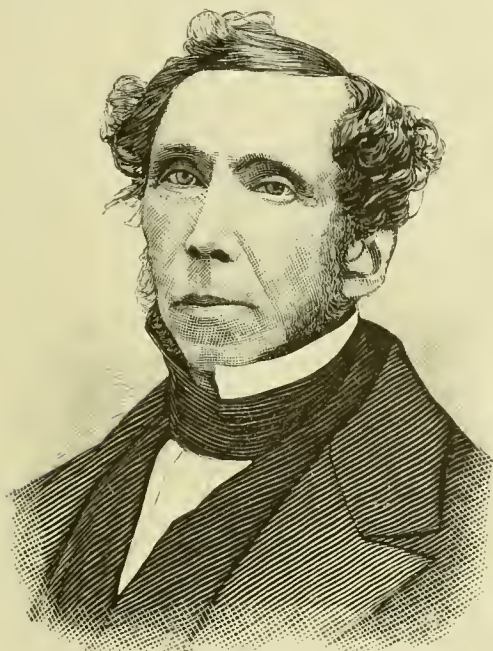
*Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces, that ye may tell it to the generation following—PSALM XLVIII, 12, 13.*

ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1884, BY D. R. B. N., FOR THE PRESBYTERIAN ENCYCLOPÆDIA PUBLISHING CO.,  
IN THE OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

PHILADELPHIA:  
PRESBYTERIAN PUBLISHING CO.,  
No. 1510 CHESTNUT STREET.

Charleston, S. C., which he accepted, and after preaching to the congregation with great acceptance for six months, he was unanimously elected their pastor, and was installed by the Charleston Union Presbytery, December 29th, 1834.

Dr. Smyth was, in an eminent degree, furnished by nature and mental training with those qualities which render the ministry brilliant and successful. He was a princely orator. He was gifted with a vigorous and brilliant imagination, a quick, poetic sensibility. He was a most diligent student and a thorough-going preacher, of the old school. The gospel trumpet, in his mouth, uttered no uncertain sound. He was a standard-bearer. He was not ashamed of his Confession of Faith and Church Catechism, or of the Westminster Assembly of Divines.



THOMAS SMYTH, D. D.

He was a bold and skillful defender, as well as an able and successful expounder, of the truth. His crowning excellence as a preacher, the chief inspiration of his eloquent discourses, was his absorbing love to the Saviour. He was eminently zealous in the cause of missions, and was, for many years, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Missions, in the Synod of South Carolina. He was also a devoted friend of the Sabbath school and the Bible Society.

Dr. Smyth was as much marked by fidelity and tenderness as a pastor, as by ability and power as a preacher. He ever felt and manifested a deep and affectionate interest in the colored people, who filled the gallery of his church, and largely composed his membership. As an ecclesiastic, he was thoroughly qualified to be a leader in the courts and councils of

the Church. As a churchman, he was at once intensely denominational and intensely unsectarian. He was a learned author, and has left to the world about thirty valuable volumes, the most popular of which are: "The Well in the Valley," "Why Do I Live?" and the volumes on missions.

Dr. Smyth's health was greatly impaired during the later years of his life, but he bore his sufferings with remarkable patience, even with cheerfulness, and labored on with unlagging energy, working until his throbbing heart ceased to beat, and "the pulse of life stood still." His earnest, exemplary and useful life terminated at Charleston, August 20th, 1873. Death had no terrors for him. No act of his life was more positive than that of obeying the order of his great Captain to put off his armor and go up to receive his crown.

**Snodgrass, Rev. James**, was born near Doylestown, Bucks county, Pa. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, in 1783, and was afterwards, for some time, a Tutor in the same Institution. He studied theology under the direction of the Rev. Nathanael Irwin, then pastor of the Church at Neshauniny, and was licensed to preach by the First Presbytery of Philadelphia, in December, 1785. After preaching about a year and a half in destitute places, in the central and northern parts of the State of New York, he was installed, in May, 1788, pastor of the West Hanover congregation, in connection with the Presbytery of Carlisle, and continued in the active discharge of the duties of his office until the 25th of July, 1845, when he was attacked by a disease from which he never so far recovered as to be able to resume his labors. He died July 2d, 1846. Mr. Snodgrass was distinguished for sound judgment, great modesty, and eminent devotedness to his work. Though he rather shunned than courted the public gaze, he was held in high estimation by all who knew him. He was the father of the Rev. W. D. Snodgrass, D. D., now of Goshen, N. Y.

**Snodgrass, William Davis, D. D.**, was born in West Hanover, Dauphin county, Pa., June 30th, 1796. He graduated at Washington College, Pennsylvania, in 1815; after studying Hebrew in Philadelphia for six months, spent two and a half years at Princeton Theological Seminary, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Carlisle, October 7th, 1818. He was ordained by the Presbytery of Fayetteville, N. C., July 30th, 1819, and installed pastor of Fayetteville Presbyterian Church on the same day, in which relation he continued till February, 1822. He was stated supply of the Independent Presbyterian Church, Savannah, Ga., from February, 1822, till August, 1823. Subsequently he was pastor of Murray Street Church, New York city, from October, 1823, till May, 1832; of the Second Church, Troy, N. Y., from October 3d, 1831, till April 28th, 1844; and of the Fifteenth Street Church, New York city, from March 15th, 1846, till October 9th, 1849.

On November 7th, 1849, he was installed pastor of the Church in Goshen, N. Y., of which he still has charge. For eighteen months, in 1832-33, he was agent for the Board of Home Missions.

Dr. Snodgrass has borne, through his long and useful life, the reputation of an able, faithful and successful minister of the gospel. His labors have been blessed with several extensive revivals—one in New York, in 1829, two during his residence in Troy, and two during his pastorate at Goshen. He was elected a Director of Princeton Theological Seminary in 1830, and not only has discharged the duties of that office with marked fidelity and acceptableness ever since, but has been honored with the position of President of the Board for several years. Dr. Snodgrass, in addition to his pulpit power, wields a

Snodgrass, was an extensive merchant in Cumberland county, and was a man of precision and sterling integrity. At the age of thirteen he entered his father's store, to be initiated into the routine of business, where he learned that systematic and prompt management of business matters which characterized him through life. At fifteen he was left alone in Philadelphia, but, shunning evil associations, he spent his leisure time in study, and for five years it was his custom to devote three hours daily to mental culture. Starting with a capital of a few dollars, and refusing all aid from rich or poor relations, by the power of his own industry, energy and merit, he rose to the highly creditable position which he occupied in the mercantile world. The fine building at the northwest corner of Ninth and Market streets, Philadelphia, is a worthy monument to the ability of a man who carved out his own fortune, and educated to his business forty-nine young men.

Mr. Snodgrass was a member of the Board of Trade in the city in which he so long resided, and was a prominent and useful member of the Alexander Church, and subsequently of the West Arch Street Presbyterian Church. Whilst he was, by birth, training and conviction, a Presbyterian, his religious sentiments were liberal, and he was strongly disposed to fraternize with and aid all evangelical Christians. Exactng as an employer, he placed every young man upon his own merit, but his active sympathy with all that concerned them drew them near to him, and made them feel that in him they had more than a friend. To the world generally, he was a pleasant, courteous, and benevolent gentleman. He departed this life in the Autumn of 1874.

**Snowden, Rev. Gilbert Tennent**, was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. On the 24th of November 1790, he was transferred to the Presbytery of New Brunswick, and ordained and installed pastor of the Church at Cranbury, N. J. His ministry was a short one, but filled with labor and crowned with fruit. He died February 20th, 1797. Dr. Samuel Stanhope Smith, in preaching his funeral sermon, said, "The best eulogy of Gilbert Tennent Snowden would be a faithful history of himself."

**Snowden, Rev. Nathanael Randolph**, a graduate of Princeton College in 1787, was licensed by the Presbytery of Carlisle, in 1794; for a time was Tutor in Dickinson College, and was settled over the churches of Harrisburg, Paxton and Derry, Pennsylvania, in which he labored about three years, with zeal and success. After resigning these charges, he supplied many congregations, but made no permanent settlement. He died November 3d, 1850.

**Snowden, Rev. Samuel Finley**, a brother of Gilbert T. Snowden, of the class of 1783, at Princeton College, was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, April 24th, 1794, and ordained and installed pastor of the Church at Princeton, on



WILLIAM DAVIS SNODGRASS, D. D.

vigorous pen. He has published a small but valuable volume on "Perfectionism," a duodecimo, containing thirteen able lectures on Apostofical Succession, a Sermon on the death of Rev. John M. Mason, D. D., one on Missions, which was preached before the General Assembly, and one on the Triumphs of the Redemption over the Apostacy, which appears in the "Murray Street Discourses." Amidst the infirmities of declining years he is active in doing good, and enjoys very justly the confidence and esteem, not only of his brethren in the ministry, but also of the entire Church to which his life-work has been devoted.

**Snodgrass, William T.**, merchant, was born in Shippensburg, Pa., on September 17th, 1813. He was of Scotch-Irish descent. His father, William