

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.

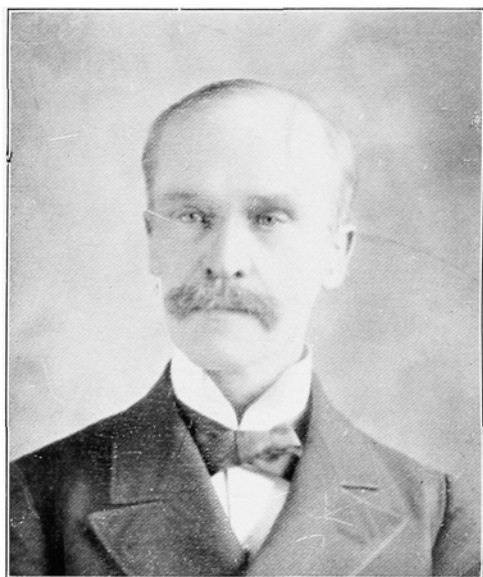


By

THE REV. OWEN F. THOMPSON

Pastor of the Blanchard Congregation

Blanchard, Iowa



THE REV. JOHN W. SPROUL, D. D.
Elected Moderator of Synod in the year 1888
In the Central Allegheny R. P. Church
N. S. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Academy in Selma, Alabama, having been appointed to this position by the Board. His health still failing he went to Colorado in October, 1892, seeking to recuperate. As it was with the Apostle Paul, so with him. The Lord did not see best to grant him his quest, and there he passed from his preparations for an earthly ministry to the realities of a Heavenly ministry. He died in the city of Denver, Colorado, April 3, 1893. His four score years were not yet reached but his Eternity was well begun. On September 5, 1881, he was united in marriage with Laura Love of Sharon, Pennsylvania.

JOHN WALLACE SPROULL, D. D.

J. W. SPROULL, the first part of whose biographical sketch appears in Glasgow's History, was in the year 1888, when that volume appeared, pastor of the Central Allegheny congregation. He remained in this charge until the time of his resignation and release by Pittsburgh Presbytery October 26, 1909. This occurred after he had served this people for 39 years with the utmost faithfulness and devotion. Though he was not strong physically, his labors were large and taxing and carried him into many fields. He was Associate Editor of the Reformed Presbyterian and Covenanter Magazine from 1867 to 1896, a period of 29 years. He was for many years Chairman of the Central Board of Missions, Secretary of the Board of the Theological Seminary, and Stated Clerk of Synod. During the years of his ministry he missed but one meeting of Synod, that of 1890. He was faithful in the discharge of every duty assigned him, performing with the utmost energy and

will what was often beyond his physical strength, humanly speaking. He served the King to the last. His work in Spring Garden Mission and Compromise Street are evidence of his zeal and consecration to Mission work. By character and personality he commended Christ and the truth to the world. He won and kept to the end the devotion of his people. He was, at the time of his death, a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Pittsburgh. He was called from his earthly to his Heavenly Home January 7, 1919.

THOMAS SPROULL, D. D., LL. D.

THOMAS SPROULL, whose biographical sketch is carried forward in Glasgow's History up until within three years of his death, was, at the time of the publishing of that volume in 1888, Professor Emeritus of the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary in Allegheny. In spite of his advanced age he was still hearing a class in Pastoral Theology. In 1891 Synod meeting in Pittsburgh, a committee of the members of Synod sent to visit Dr. Sproull, "found that beloved father in a comfortable state of bodily health, though greatly weakened and exhausted. In a lengthened conversation we found our aged brother in a most comfortable state of mind, not only peaceful but triumphant, earnestly longing for an entrance into life eternal; realizing with wonderful pathos the inspired word, 'though now ye see Him not, yet believing ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.'" After prayer he charged the committee to communicate to Synod his gratitude for their kind regards; an assurance of his interest in and affection for the church of which he had for so long been a member; and his