

THE FATHERS OF THE
REFORMED CHURCH

VOLUME VII

PRESENTED TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE
EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

1955

COMPILED BY GUY P. BREADY

Dedicated in loving memory to my wife,

ANNA MAE (BOAS) BREADY

whose death occurred on May, 30, 1955.

FATHERS OF THE REFORMED CHURCH

P R E F A C E

The Seventh Volume of "The Fathers of the Reformed Church" is humbly presented, after a lapse of almost eighty years from the time of the publication of Volume VI.

The series, begun by Dr. Henry Harbaugh in 1850, was, as is well-known by all, continued by him through Volume II. After his death in 1867, Rev. D. Y. Heisler assumed the task and published Volumes III, IV and V. After Dr. Heisler's death, Dr. W. M. Deatrick was commissioned by the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Their Widows to publish the manuscript which was left by Dr. Heisler at his death, and which was almost enough of material to fill another volume. Dr. Deatrick added some biographies to those which were left by Dr. Heisler, and toward the end of the year 1888 published Volume VI.

Possibly because the original venture was not a success financially and there was found no group or organization of the Church willing or able to sponsor the publication of any further volumes, the whole project was dropped, not to be revived until now.

Volumes I to VI cover the biographies of deceased ministers of the Reformed Church from Reformation times until the latter part of the year 1888.

The editor has felt for some time that the series ought to be continued to bring the record of deceased ministers as near up to date as possible. Hence, he has humbly undertaken the task in the hope that the record of the lives of our ministers might be preserved for the present and for the future. He has been commissioned by no individual or organization; he has undertaken the work solely on his own initiative.

In preparing this volume, the editor has sought every known

available source of information, including Synodical and Classical Minutes, the Obituary Record of Franklin and Marshall College, the Seminary Register, the Eastern and Western Almanacs of the Reformed Church, "Deceased Ministers of the Reformed Church" by Fackenthal, published Histories of Classes and Synods, published church Histories by Drs. Richards and Klein, the Christian World, and, especially, the Messenger.

He has checked back to the beginning of 1881 to be sure that no one has been overlooked (There was not time to go back further). The plan of this volume follows in general the preceding ones, except that in this volume, the biographies of Licentiates have been included, also of those ministers who were erased or deposed, and of those who left the Reformed Church to join other denominations. Two hundred and thirteen individual records of ministers and licentiates, who died between the latter part of 1888 and before January 1, 1901, are included.

The editor has not attempted to prepare this volume on the elaborate scale of those which have gone before. He has confined himself chiefly to the presentation of facts, striving to include in each biography the date and place of birth, parents and grandparents (if the information is available), preparatory education, year of licensure and ordination, and by what judicatories, charges and congregations served pastorally, together with inclusive dates of service in each, death and funeral, marriage and family, and degrees received and by what institutions conferred.

The names are arranged chronologically according to date of death. A few, however, are not in the right place, on account of having been overlooked in the first draft. The index is arranged alphabetically.

It is not intended that this volume will be published for general

distribution. Only one typewritten copy has been prepared. This will be bound and placed for reference and study in the rooms of the Historical Society of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, to whom the editor gratefully presents it. The material is not copyrighted and is at the entire disposal of anyone who can find its contents useful. That it may frequently be of service is the hope of the editor.

Lancaster, Pa.

March 29, 1955.

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1881. MR. JOHN WILLIAM (MRS. MARY) (MRS. MARY)

Mr. Lawrence was born at Weymouth, Mass., November 4, 1836. He was baptized by Rev. Henry E. Rogers, and had just become pastor of the Weymouth Chapel. He received the full name of the baptizing minister, who was always held in admiration and veneration by Mr. Lawrence and his family. In the year he was ordained as a member of Trinity Church, Weymouth, and after being duly prepared entered Trinity College in 1854, graduating from the College Department in 1858 and from the Divinity School of Theology in 1861. While at Trinity he was licensed by Weymouth Congregational Church.

Not being in robust health, he did not immediately seek a position but returned to his home for the winter, but engaged his time in regular work in the Weymouth, St. John, and Weymouth Congregations.

His death occurred on November 28, 1881, just a few weeks after his thirtieth birthday. The funeral services were held in Trinity Church, Weymouth, Mr. Rogers, for whom Mr. Lawrence was named, officiating the funeral service. Mr. Lawrence was not married and had no issue, except as he is credited.

Weymouth, Massachusetts; December 7, 1881

Weymouth, Massachusetts; December 7, 1881

Mr. Smith was a son of Emily and Catherine Smith and was born in Weymouth, Mass., on October 23, 1845. He entered Trinity College in 1864, graduating with the highest honors with the class of 1871.

His career, though brief, was brilliant. Having chosen teaching as his life's work, he served as teacher in the study of the ancient languages, he served as

1881

LIC. HENRY WILLIAM SUPER LECRONE (LECRON)

Mr. Lecrone was born at Waynesboro, Pa., November 4, 1852. He was baptized by Rev. Henry W. Super, who had just become pastor of the Waynesboro Charge. He received the full name of the baptizing minister, who was always held in admiration and veneration by Mr. Lecrone and his family. In due time he was confirmed as a member of Trinity Church, Waynesboro, and after being duly prepared entered Ursinus College in 1874, graduating from the College Department in 1878 and from the Ursinus School of Theology in 1881. Soon afterwards he was licensed by Mercersburg Classis.

Not being in robust health, he did not immediately seek a pastorate but returned to his home for the summer, but engaged his time in supply work in the Greencastle, Mt. Alto, and Waynesboro Congregations.

His death occurred on November 28, 1881, just a few weeks after his twenty-ninth birthday. The funeral services were held in Trinity Church, Waynesboro, Dr. Super, for whom Mr. Lecrone was named, delivering the funeral sermon. Mr. Lecrone was not married and did not live long enough to be ordained.

Reference: Messenger; December 7, 1881

PROFESSOR OSSIANDER A. S. HURSH

Mr. Hursh was a son of Philip and Catherine Hursh and was born in Darke County, Ohio, on December 20, 1845. He entered Heidelberg College in 1867, graduating with the highest honors with the Class of 1871.

His career, though brief, was brilliant. Having shown decided talent in the study of the Ancient Languages, he served as tutor

in these subjects during the last two years of his college course, and upon graduation, he was immediately elected to a full professorship in Heidelberg College, with which institution he was connected in a teaching and administrative capacity to the end of his life. In 1879 he was made Professor of Latin and Rector of the Preparatory Department. During his teaching career he studied in the Heidelberg Theological Seminary and was licensed by Tiffin Classis in 1881.

Prof. Hursh was married on December 25, 1873, to Miss Elizabeth Chapman. They were the parents of two children, who, with their mother, survived him.

His death occurred at Tiffin on September 11, 1881. The funeral services were in charge of Drs. E. R. Williard, Herman Rust and Reuben Good.

Reference: Messenger; September 7, 1881

October 12, 1881

1883

REV. A. S. KEISER (KEYSER)

A. S. Keiser was licensed by Lebanon Classis at its annual meeting in 1882. No record is available concerning the place or the date of his birth or his preparatory education. He was ordained by Lebanon Classis in the summer of 1882 and installed as pastor of a congregation at Pottsville, Pa.

On march 12, 1883, Lebanon Classis tried him on several moral charges, including seduction, etc. He was found guilty and deposed. There is no further record concerning him.

Reference: Messenger; June 23, 1882

March 21, 1883

REV. WILLIAM T. SPROLE, D. D.

William T. Sprole was born about 1808; he was received from the Presbyterian denomination and installed as pastor of the Race Street (First) Reformed Church in Philadelphia, serving from May 1, 1832, until July, 1837, when he resigned and returned to the Presbyterian Church. Later, he was chaplain of the West Point Military Academy. He died at Detroit, Mich., June 9, 1883, aged seventy-four years.

References: Messenger; June 20, 1883

Dubbs, Historical Manual

REV. A. W. J. BEST

Mr. Best was ordained by Westmoreland Classis in August, 1882, and installed as pastor of the Scottsdale, Pa., Charge. Within a year, on June 17, 1883, without authority and contrary to the order of Classis, he left his pastorate and connected himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was tried by Westmoreland Classis for insubordination and irregularity and erased in June, 1884.

Reference: Messenger; September 12, 1883

July 2, 1884

REV. JACOB HELFFENSTEIN, D. D.

Jacob Helffenstein, the third son of Dr. Samuel Helffenstein of Philadelphia, was born in that city in 1802. He received his literary and theological education under the direction of his father, who, on account of the lack of a theological seminary, educated a number of young men for the ministry. Jacob was licensed and ordained by the Synod of the United States (Later,

the Eastern Synod). His first Charge was within the bounds of Maryland Classis, of which Classis two of his uncles, Albert, Sr., at Baltimore, and Jonathan at Frederick, and a brother, Samuel, Jr., were already prominent members. He began in 1825 to serve the Taneytown, Md., Charge, consisting of congregations at Taneytown, Uniontown, and Greenwood School-House, all in Maryland. About two years later, he left this Charge irregularly and without giving either the Charge or the Classis any notice of his intentions; for the purpose, as he afterwards explained, of engaging in revivals. His explanation was accepted and his course approved. He was not disciplined or censured for his irregularity by the Classis, but continued a member of it until 1837. In the meantime, he had participated in a number of successful revivals in Southern Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia.

In 1837, he became pastor of the congregations at Chambersburg and Fayetteville, Pa. Here he served until 1841 or 1842, when he took charge of the Market Square Reformed Church at Germantown, Pa.

During his pastorate here (In 1856) he left the Reformed Church and connected himself with the Presbyterian denomination, taking the congregation and the church property with him, thus alienating one of the most influential congregations of the Synod. The reason assigned was that he had become dissatisfied with the position of the Synod regarding Liturgy and related questions. The entire Helffenstein family were definitely anti-liturgical, but no other member of the family left the Reformed Church on account of the controversies which raged in the Church during that period.

Dr. Helffenstein continued as pastor of the Market Square

Church until his retirement in 1869. He died at Germantown, March 17, 1884.

References: Messenger March 26, 1884

Fathers of the Reformed Church, Vol V, P. 418

History of Maryland Classis

Dubbs, Historical Manual, P. 396

1885

REV. JACOB SERENUS HARTZELL

Jacob S. Hartzell was born at Shimersville, Lehigh County, Pa., February 29, 1856. He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in the Class of 1877, and from the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1880. He was licensed by Lehigh Classis in 1881 and ordained by Clarion Classis in 1882. He began his ministerial career in the South Bend Charge in Armstrong County, Pa., which he served for only a year, May, 1883. He was then without a charge for almost a year, residing in the interim in Philadelphia. In 1884 he became pastor of the East Rowan Charge (including Grace Church, Newton, N. C.) in North Carolina Classis. His pastorate here continued, however, only from February to July, 1884. Then he resigned and passed over into the Protestant Episcopal Church. He then attended the Philadelphia Divinity School, receiving deacon's orders in November, 1885. He was ordained priest in 1890 and served pastorates at St. Thomas Church, Glassboro, N. J. (1886-1887); Shenandoah, Pa. (1887); Evansburg, Pa. (1888-1890); Sumter, S. C. (1890-1894); Mt. Pleasant, Pa. (1894-1902). From 1902 until 1914 he was without a pastorate, residing at Petersburg, Va., during which time he edited Sunday School Lessons in his own denomination. He served as rector of All Saints' Church, Hamlet, N. C. (1914-1915) and as professor of History at Christ School, Arden, N. C. He retired at Crecaw, S. C. in 1920. ~~He~~

Mr. Hartzell was the author of "Sin and Our Saviour", published in 1895; also of a number of articles chiefly on the subjects of Reformed Church History and Polity, and published in Reformed Church periodicals before his defection to the Protestant Episcopal Church.

References: Messenger; November 18, 1885

Seminary Register

1886

LIC. MAURICE WOLBACH MAUCK

M. W. Mauck was born at Ironville, near Hellertown, Pa., July 2, 1861. He was confirmed at the church in Hellertown on May 13, 1878. He entered Franklin and Marshall College in 1879, graduating in 1883 with the Bachelor of Arts degree. In the fall of that year he entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster and was duly graduated from that institution in May, 1886. At the annual meeting of Lehigh Classis in 1886 he was licensed to preach the Gospel. However, the state of his health at this time prevented him from seeking a pastoral charge. While a student at the Seminary in 1884, he suffered a severe attack of pneumonia from which he never entirely recovered. He remained at home in Hellertown during the summer, and then, becoming worse and realizing that a dread pulmonary disease had laid hold of him, he returned to Lancaster for medical treatment, but without avail. He sank rapidly during the fall months, meeting his death on December 6, 1886, at Lancaster.

The funeral services on December 10 were in charge of Revs. T. G. Apple and A. B. Koplin. He is buried at Hellertown. Mr. Mauck was unmarried.

References: Messenger; December 15, 1886

References: Messenger; December 22, 1886

December 29, 1886

Seminary Register

1888

REV. HENRY IRVING COMFORT

Henry Irving Comfort was a native of Adams County, Pa., where he was born August 19, 1830. We have no information as to the names of his parents, the date of his baptism and confirmation, or of what congregation he was a member prior to his ordination. He was graduated by Franklin and Marshall College in 1857. His theological training after College was brief and probably acquired privately, for he was licensed by Maryland Classis at its annual meeting the next year, May 18, 1858. Soon afterwards he received a Call from the Sabillasville, Maryland, Charge (called Mechanics-town Charge after 1859). The congregations comprising the Charge were St. John's at Sabillasville, Apple's, near Mechanicstown, (Thurmont) Maryland, and St. John's at Creagerstown, Maryland. He was ordained and installed in this Charge on September 4, 1858. Here he served acceptably for nearly eight years. In January, 1866, he was dismissed to Miami Classis, having accepted a Call to the Germantown, Ohio, Charge, which he served for one year. In 1867 he returned to Maryland as pastor of the Burkittsville Charge, where he remained for four and one half years. His next pastorate was in the Grindstone Hill Charge, composed of several congregations in Franklin County, Pa., south of Chambersburg. Here he served for eight years (1872-1880), residing during this pastorate at Chambersburg. Resigning this Charge in 1880, he was without a pastorate for one year, residing, however, at Chambersburg. We find him next as pastor of the Bradford Charge

in Darke County, Ohio. After one year here, the Charge was divided and he served the St. Paris (Ohio) congregation for nearly a year longer. In June, 1883 he resigned his Charge in Ohio and settled in Frederick, Md., where he was without a charge until 1886. During this interval he worked at his trade (candy maker) and taught school about three and a half miles from Frederick.

In the meantime he began to serve the Burkittsville Charge, of which he had been pastor some years before, and in May, 1886, he was installed in this Charge as regular pastor. Here he continued to serve until his death. Within two years his health began to fail so that for the last six months of his life he was unable to attend to any pastoral duties. He died of Bright's Disease on Saturday, February 18, 1888.

The funeral services were held in the Burkittsville Church on the following Tuesday. The funeral sermon was delivered by Rev. N. H. Skyles from the text found in First Thessalonians, Chapter 4, Verses, 13-14. Other ministers having part in the services were Revs. H. W. Hoffmeier, T. F. Hoffmeier, E. R. Eschbach, S. L. Whitmore, A. B. Stoner and W. A. Gring of the Reformed Church; also, Rev. Dr. Dosh of the Lutheran Church at Burkittsville. The interment was in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Frederick.

Mr. Comfort was married three times. In 1858 he married Lizzie Shrom, who died in 1863. His second wife was Maggie A. Miller, to whom he was married in 1864 and who died six months after marriage. He was married a third time to Willie A. Colliflower, daughter of Rev. W. F. Colliflower. He was survived by his third wife and by six children, three sons and three daughters.

References: Messenger; March 14, 1888

History of Maryland Classis

REV. FREDERICK WILLIAM DECHANT

Frederick W. Dechant was a member of a family connection which gave at least five generations of ministers to the Reformed Church. Frederick's father, grand-father, and great-grandfather were ministers. His father, Rev. Jacob William Dechant, had ten children, of whom three became ministers of the Reformed Church. The father, Jacob William, and his uncle, John Peter, came to America from Krusnach, Germany, in 1805.

Frederick William was born at Macungie, Pa., December 25, 1814. He was a student at Marshall College and attended the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg for three terms during the years 1844-1845. He was licensed in 1846 and in the same year was ordained and installed as pastor of the Somerset, Ohio, Charge. In 1854 he became pastor of the Bluffton, Ind. Charge which he served for four years; then at Harmony, Pa., for a pastorate of seven years. From 1865 to 1870 he was without a regular charge, residing in Philadelphia and supplying for part of that period the congregationx at Egg Harbor, N. J. In 1871 he became pastor of the Minersburg, Pa., Charge, serving there for three years, and then supplied the Hanover Charge, near Reading, Pa., for two years. He then retired from the active ministry, residing in Reading. However, he served as supply for the Shoemakerville, Pa., Charge for a short time, and as chaplain of the Berks County Almshouse for a number of years until his death.

In 1846 he was married to Angelina Bover. Mr. and Mrs. Dechant were the parents of four children, two sons and two daughters.

He died at his residence in Reading on February 17, 1888. Twenty ministers attended the funeral services on the 21st. Addresses were delivered by Revs. B. Bausman, C. F. McCauley,

A. S. Leinbach, H. Mosser and L. K. Derr. Revs. C. S. Gerhard and J. W. Steinmetz offered prayer. Six other ministers of the Reformed Church served as pall-bearers.

Mrs. Dechant died at her home in Reading on February 4, 1890. The funeral services on February 8 were in charge of Rev. Henry Mosser, pastor of the First Reformed Church in Reading.

References: Messenger; February 22, 1888

March 7, 1888

February 13, 1890

Seminary Register

Dubbs, Historical Manual

REV. ISAAC S. DeMUND

Rev. Isaac S. DeMund was a pastor in the Reformed Church in the United States for only a short time. We have no record of the date or place of his birth, nor of his preparatory education. In 1856 he was received from the Reformed Dutch Church and installed as Pastor of St. Paul's Church, Lancaster, Pa., just three years after the organization of the congregation. Here he served for eight years. In the year 1864, he was dismissed to the Reformed Dutch Church in which communion he labored for many years. His whole ministerial career extended for more than half a century. His death occurred on April 23, 1888, at Ridgewood, New Jersey.

Reference: Messenger; May 23, 1888

REV. NERO STOUT STRASSBURGER, D. D.

Nero S. Strassburger, the son of Rev. J. S. (A.?) and Catharine (Stout) Strassburger, was born near Sellersville, Pa., August

17, 1819. He was graduated from Marshall College in 1844 and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1847.

He was licensed by Goshenhoppen Classis on May 13, 1847 and ordained by the same Classis in the summer of the same year. The chairman of the ordination committee was Rev. D. Weiser. He began his ministerial labors in the Friedensburg (Oley), Berks County, Pa., Charge. This Charge included also congregations at Pricetown, Boyertown, and Huber's Church. His service in the Friedensburg Charge extended until 1859, although he did not preach at Pricetown after 1854, at Boyertown after 1853, or at Huber's Church after 1852.

In 1854 he organized an English congregation at Pottstown and served it until 1863. At the same time he was supply-pastor at Amity Church (1849-1863), at Limerick (1853-1863), and at Baumstown (1861-1863). In 1863 he became pastor of Zion's Church, Allentown, Pa. His pastorate here was most successful, in that during his term of office, three new congregations were organized at Allentown, largely from material of his own congregation. In spite of these periodical losses, Zion's Church continued to grow in membership and influence. In 1881 he resigned his pastorate and retired, continuing, however, to reside in Allentown to the end of his life.

During his pastoral career, he is regarded as serving three charges, although in the first two, there were frequent changes in the constituent congregations, due to growth in membership and consequent division of his Charges.

He served longer or shorter periods as Stated Clerk of three Classes: Goshenhoppen, East Pennsylvania and Lehigh. He was also the Treasurer of Lehigh, until a few weeks before his death.

Some years before his death he suffered a severe attack of a

disease of the liver from which he unexpectedly recovered. His death occurred at Allentown on June 27, 1888, after a long illness from heart trouble and dropsy.

The funeral services on July 2 were in charge of Rev. M. H. Dieffenderfer, who also delivered the funeral sermon. Rev. Dr. Repass, a Lutheran clergyman, delivered an address.

In 1867, Franklin and Marshall College conferred on Mr. Strassburger the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was married to Miss Diana A. Dickenscheid who with one daughter survived him; also surviving were two brothers and two sisters. The body was temporarily interred at Allentown. Later it was permanently buried at Pottstown.

In 1861, Dr. Strassburger published his "Child's Catechism", which has had a tremendous sale, even to the present. It has been translated into the German language.

References: Messenger; July 4, 1888

July 11, 1888

Seminary Register

REV. JOHN G. WIEHLE, D. D.

Rev. Dr. John G. Wiehle died in Philadelphia on July 17, 1888, aged 71 years, 5 months, and 18 days. At the time of his death he was pastor of Salem's (German) Reformed Church in Philadelphia.

The funeral services took place on July 20; interment in Mt. Vernon Cemetery, Philadelphia.

In 1874 Dr. Wiehle received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from both Franklin and Marshall College and from Ursinus College on almost the same date.

Reference: Messenger; July 25, 1888

REV. DANIEL RIEGEL

Daniel Riegel was born in Codorus Township in York County, Pa., August 2, 1808. He attended the High School and the Theological Seminary at York, under the supervision of Dr. Mayer, from 1830 to 1832. He then continued and finished his theological studies under Rev. Jonathan Oswald, Pastor of the Lutheran Church at York.

He was licensed by Zion's Classis in 1839, and having presented a Call from the Dillsburg Charge was ordained and installed by the same Classis in the same year. The Dillsburg Charge at the time of the ordination of Mr. Riegel consisted^{of} the Franklin, Barrens, Bermudian, and Rosstown congregations, with others, not named, as constituent parts of the Charge or as supply points. Although through the years some changes took place in the constitution of the Charge, with some congregations being detached and others added, Mr. Riegel served in the one charge throughout the whole of his pastoral life, from 1839 to 1888, not quite fifty years. He died in the pastorate on July 4, 1888.

The funeral services were in charge of Rev. A. Spangler, who preached the funeral sermon. Rev. J. A. Murray of the Presbyterian Church delivered an address. Other members participating in the services were Revs. C. V. Hartzell, J. C. Barr, W. C. Heisler, A. H. Leiss, W. I. Stewart and R. Bahauser.

Mr. Riegel was married to Maria L. Peters, who with one son survived.

References: Messenger; July 25, 1888

Seminary Register

REV. ADOLPH MEYER

Adolph J. Meyer was born in Hoboken, N. J., February 4, 1861. At the age of seven he moved with his parents to the State of Ohio where he continued to reside to the end of his life.

He was educated at Heidelberg College and Seminary, entering the College in 1882 and graduating from the Seminary in 1887. He was licensed immediately after graduation and ordained as pastor of the North Lima, Ohio, Charge on May 1, 1887.

Death ended his career as a pastor a little more than a year after his ordination. He died July 9, 1888, aged 27 years, 4 months, and 26 days. The funeral services took place in the North Lima Church on July 11.

He was married in August, 1887, to Miss Viola Griffith, a fellow-student at Heidelberg College. His widow survived.

Reference: Messenger; August 1, 1888

REV. H. KORTHENER, D. D.

Dr. Korthener was a native of Coblenz, in Rhenish Prussia, Germany. He was born November 13, 1818, the second son of a large family of children. His father was a government official and custom officer. Early in his childhood, Dr. Korthener manifested a love of music, which developed into a decided musical talent. He became an able performer on several musical instruments.

We have no record of his collegiate education, but he was evidently well educated for in 1840, at the age of twenty-two, he became a teacher at Monsingen, his schedule including courses of instruction in music.

He was married in 1846 to Miss Malvina Zimmerman who had been a teacher in the royal family. Then for ten years this wedded couple continued in the profession of teaching, both in the same

school. During this time, Mr. Korthener studied theology in preparation for missionary work in America. In 1855 Mr. and Mrs. Korthener came to America, locating in Wisconsin where he continued his theological studies under Dr. Bossard.

He was ordained at Findlay, Ohio, where he served for two years as a missionary; then at Terre Haute, Ind., in the same kind of ministerial work for five years until 1865. He next served as pastor at Massillon, Ohio, where he remained for many years, 1865 to 1877. On account of some trouble in the congregation for which Mr. Korthener was not responsible, he resigned his Charge and became a member of ^{the} faculty of Calvin College, of which Dr. Reutenik was President, at Cleveland, Ohio. After six months of teaching in college, he again returned to the active pastorate, serving at Bucyrus, Ohio, for nearly eleven years, 1877 - 1888. He died in the pastorate at Bucyrus, August 5, 1888, The funeral services on August 8 were in charge of Revs. F. Strassner and David Winters.

In 1877 Franklin and Marshall College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was noted as a musician and scholar and as a composer of church music. He also translated the Western Liturgy into German.

References: Messenger; August 22, 1888

August 29, 1888

REV. F. P. (H.?) ^MHARTMETZ

F. P. Hart^{me}tz was born at Hindersheim, Reinpfalz, Bavaria, March 15, 1850. He attended the parochial school in his native town and continued his education at the Gymnasium at Gruenstadt. He came to America in 1868, settling in Philadelphia and making

his home with relatives. He became a member of Zion's German Reformed Church in Philadelphia, whose pastor influenced him to study for the ministry. He studied at the Heidelberg Theological Seminary and at the same time finished his college course which had been interrupted by his immigration to America, so that he graduated from both Heidelberg College and the Heidelberg Theological Seminary at the same time in 1873.

He was licensed by the Synod of Ohio and ordained by Illinois Classis as pastor of the First Reformed Church, Denver, Colorado. After six months in this connection, he came East and was installed as pastor of the Reformed Church at Sharon, Pa. While at Sharon, his service was distinguished by the sale of an old church building in the country and the erection of a fine new sanctuary in the city of Sharon. In 1882 he became pastor of the Brush Creek Charge, Archbold, Ohio. Here he continued his labors until his death of September 11, 1888, at the early age of thirty-eight years. The funeral took place on September 13, with interment at Sharon.

In 1874 he was married to Miss Caroline Dresch of Sharon, who with four children survived him.

Reference: Messenger; October 17, 1888

REV. GEORGE WEBER

George Weber was born in Philadelphia, January 7, 1819. Nothing is known of his parentage, his earlier occupation (he was nearly thirty years old when he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg), or his preliminary education. He spent only a half-year at the Seminary.

In 1848 he was married to Miss Maria W. Hoffeditz, daughter of

Rev. T. L. Hoffeditz who probably turned his mind toward the ministry as a vocation and may have acted as his preceptor after he left the Seminary, since he was not licensed until three years later. Mr. and Mrs. Weber were the parents of ten children of whom five died in infancy.

He was licensed and ordained by the Synod of Ohio in 1853 and spent the remainder of his life in many mission fields in the West: At Orangeville, Illinois, 1855 - 1857; Dayton, Ind., 1858; Forreston, Ill., 1861; Cedarville, Ill., 1862; Freeport, Ill., 1863 - 1864; Central City, Iowa, 1865; Astoria Charge, Summum, Ill., 1866 - 1867; Elray, Ill., 1868; Sterling, Ill., 1869 - 1873; Blairstown, Iowa, 1874 - 1880; Millersburg Charge, Vinton, Iowa, 1881 - 1888. His death occurred at Vinton on October 15, 1888.

References: Messenger; November 14, 1888

November 28, 1888

Seminary Register

REV. JACOB ZIEGLER

Jacob Ziegler was born at Rockland, Berks County, Pa., January 6, 1809. In the Centennial Register of the Theological Seminary he is recorded as graduating or at least as leaving the Seminary in 1837, but there is no record of his attendance as a student there. Apart from this one reference, we know nothing of his literary or theological education.

He was licensed by Philadelphia Classis in 1837 and ordained at Red Hook, N. Y., by the same Classis in 1838.

He began his pastoral activities as pastor of several congregations in Chester County, Pa. After a year in this pastorate, he took charge of the congregations in and around Bedford, Pa.,

where he served for ten years. In 1849 he became pastor of the Gettysburg, Pa., Charge. From 1858 to 1866 he was pastor of the Conowaga Charge, Arendtsville, Pa., near Gettysburg. His residence during the Civil War was, therefore, in the vicinity of the excitement and tension of the Battle of Gettysburg.

His next pastoral work was in the Paradise Charge near Thomasville, York County, Pa. He served this Charge from 1866 until September 3, 1872, when he was stricken with paralysis and from that date until his death he was not able to do any pastoral work. For several months previous to his death he was confined to his bed.

Upon becoming disabled, he moved with his family to the City of York, where he died November 10, 1888, aged almost eighty years. The funeral services were held at York on November 13.

In 1838 he was married to Anna M. Danner. He was survived by his widow and a large family of children.

References: Messenger November 21, 1888

December 5, 1888

Seminary Register

REV. JOHN CASPER BUCHER, D. D.

J. C. Bucher, one of the best-remembered ministers of the Reformed Church in the nineteenth century, was born on a farm near Linglestown, Dauphin County, Pa., seven miles north-east of Harrisburg, June 18, 1804.

Mr. Bucher's grandfather emigrated from Switzerland about the middle of the eighteenth century and settled in Berks County, Pa.

His great-uncle, John Conrad Bucher, came to America at the same time and entered the British military service, being com-

missioned a lieutenant and took part in some of the campaigns of the French and Indian War. In 1763 he resigned his army commission and became a minister of the Reformed Church, being ordained by the Coetus. In connection with his pastoral duties he was commissioned a Royal Chaplain and served as such in the British army in America. He was pastor at Carlisle, Pa., from 1763 to 1768, and at Lebanon, Pa., from 1768 to 1780, the time of his death. He is mentioned as being a member of the Coetus in 1770. During the early years of the American Revolution he was in connection with and served informally as a chaplain in the Continental army. He was the grandfather of the Hon. John Conrad Bucher of Harrisburg, Pa.

John Casper Bucher was confirmed in Wenrick's Church near Harrisburg in 1819 by Rev. F. A. Rahauser. He greatly desired to become a minister but was discouraged by his father who wished him to remain on the farm. Having finally gained the consent of his parents to study for the ministry, he entered the Harrisburg Academy when he was nineteen years old. He attended the Theological Seminary at Carlisle under Dr. Mayer for nearly three years, he and his cousin, John G. Fritchey being members of the first Class to graduate from the Seminary, 1828. He was licensed and ordained by the Synod of the United States at Mifflinburg, Pa., October 2, 1828.

Mr. Bucher's first past-oral field was in the Cavetown, Md., Charge, consisting of two congregations, located at Cavetown and Leitersburg, Md. In 1829 Herbach's (Harbaugh's or Jacob's) Congregation became a part of the Charge.

Because Mr. Bucher's congregations were small and poor, and because his salary was likewise small and uncertain, in order to keep his expenses within the limits of his meagre income, he

lived as a hermit in a small log house, given free of rent by Elder Daniel Huyett.

Realizing that these small congregations must be joined to larger ones just over the line in Pennsylvania in order to survive, and having received an urgent Call from the Middletown, Md., Charge, Mr. Bucher resigned the Cavetown Charge in 1830 and moved to Middletown. On October 6, 1829, he was married to Miss Eliza N. Frey, Dr. Mayer being the officiating minister. Mrs. Bucher died December 7, 1847, and Mr. Bucher remained a widower to the end of his life.

The Middletown Charge in 1830 consisted of two congregations, the one in the town, and the other, a small one, on the slope of South Mountain, three miles to the West. During his pastorate at Middletown he organized congregations at Jefferson, Md. (Trap) and at Burkittsville, Md. Also, at the request of Synod, he supplied the congregation at Lovettsville, Va., which just at that time was in danger of being alienated to another denomination (Presbyterian). Altogether he was pastor at Middletown for more than eleven years.

In 1842 he rather reluctantly accepted a Call to become the pastor of First Reformed Church at Reading, Pa. At this time the congregation was demoralized and the church property was in the hands of the sheriff of Berks County and was about to be sold. Mr. Bucher's first task when he came to Reading was to have the sale postponed. In a short time, after a strenuous campaign, the debts against the church were paid, and the First Church, under his pastoral care, enjoyed a season of great prosperity.

Mr. Bucher resigned his Reading congregation, April 1, 1847, and moved to Mercersburg so that his sons could attend Marshall College. He became intensely interested in the contemplated merger

of Marshall College with Franklin College at Lancaster. His interest culminated in his appointment to raise the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars from the citizens of Lancaster City and County for the erection of buildings for the use of the merged institution. His appointment dates from June 3, 1850. Entering immediately upon this work, he found many discouragements due to the hostility or indifference of those whom he visited. But he persisted, going from door to door and accepting contributions of as little as ten cents. He completed the fund in 1852.

He moved in 1854 from Mercersburg to Carlisle, Pa., as pastor of the Carlisle Rural Charge, consisting of congregations at Churchtown, Sulphur Springs (Carlisle Springs), Stone Church and Trindle Spring. Here he served for nearly five years; then in 1858 as pastor of the Mifflinburg, Pa., Charge for three years. From 1861 to 1864 he was without a pastoral Charge. In 1864 he was called to take charge of the church at Pottsville, Pa., serving it for almost four years.

This was his last regular charge. In 1868 he moved to Lewisburg, Pa., supplying in the years following the congregations of the White Deer Charge, at Williamsport, and at Philadelphia. In 1874, after the death of Dr. Zacharias, the congregation of the Evangelical Church at Frederick, Md., desired to have Dr. Bucher as their pastor, but the Consistory refused to nominate him. This action on the part of the Consistory precipitated a division in the congregation and almost caused ^{the} withdrawal of a large part of the congregation.

Not long before his death, two of his sons, one of whom was a pharmacist, died in the drug store from an explosion of chemicals. Dr. Bucher, who was in the apartment above the store, was injured by the explosion. Soon afterwards he was injured again

by a second explosion of the heating plant in his home at Lewisburg.

Late in the fall of 1888, he was stricken with paralysis and died at Lewisburg on November 15. He was conscious to the last, but unable to speak. At his death he was not quite eighty-five years old, having been an ordained minister for sixty years.

The funeral services were held at his home on November 19. Rev. J. F. DeLong preached the funeral sermon from the text, Second Timothy, Chapter 4, Verse 6. Funeral addresses were delivered by Revs. J. S. Stahr and J. F. Peters. The next morning, his body was interred at Harrisburg.

Mr. Bucher received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Franklin and Marshall College in 1870. At his death he bequeathed his library to the Theological Seminary. A partial record of Dr. Bucher's ministerial labors follows: Baptisms, 1220; Confirmations, 1501; Marriages, 370; Burials, 441.

References: Messenger; November 21, 1888

December 12, 1888

December 26, 1888

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

Dubbs, Historical Manual

REV. WILLIAM RISHELL YEARICK

William R. Yearick, a great sufferer throughout his whole life from physical infirmities, yet notwithstanding, an efficient and successful minister, was born in Gregg Township, three miles west of Madisonburg, Center County, Pa., October 31, 1817, the son of John and Salome Yearick. He was baptized by ~~Rev.~~ a Lutheran minister, and confirmed at the age of fifteen by Rev. P. S. Fisher.

From his childhood, he suffered from rheumatism, an affliction which plagued him to the end of his life. He was unable to attend catechetical instruction at the church, so the pastor conducted the sessions of the class in young Yearick's home. On the day of his confirmation, he was carried to the church and received the rite while leaning on his crutches.

On account of his health he was unable to do any strenuous work. However, in his home and under the instruction of his mother, he became an expert in sewing and knitting. For this reason, his father wanted him to become a tailor and he began work at that trade, but he was dissatisfied and soon gave it up. Then he taught school for several years.

But he wanted to become a minister. After having with difficulty obtained his father's consent, he entered the preparatory department of Gettysburg College, then spent two and a half years in the college proper. He also spent some time at Marshall College, but on account of his health and financial difficulties, he did not remain long enough to graduate. From 1841 to 1844 he was a student in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. He was licensed by the Susquehanna Classis in 1844, and having accepted a Call to the Rebersburg, Pa., Charge, he was ordained and installed into the pastorate by a committee of Susquehanna Classis consisting of Revs. Peter S. Fisher, who had confirmed him, and Samuel Miller.

This Charge at the time consisted of eight congregations, with other preaching points, in school-houses, etc. During his pastorate in his first Charge, he re-organized the congregations at Bellefonte and Snyderstown; also organized congregations at Jacksonville and Zion.

After he had served here for three years, the Charge was

divided and he was invited to become the pastor of either of the two new Charges resulting from the division. He chose the Nittany Valley Charge, residing at Jacksonville. His new Charge consisted of congregations at Snyderstown, Jacksonville, Zion, Bellefonte and Salona. He organized other congregations at Mt. Bethel, Marsh Creek, Eagleville and Nazareth. At the end of five years another division of the Charge took place and from it the Bellefonte Charge was organized. Mr. Yearick remained in the Nittany Valley Charge, preaching also at Lock Haven and St. John's.

On account of his health he was compelled to resign the Nittany Valley Charge in 1858, having served here altogether through two divisions of his Charge for more than fourteen years. However, after his resignation, he continued to supply the congregations for several years longer.

In 1859 he moved from Bellefonte, where he had been residing for a few years, back to Jacksonville and conducted an academy for two years.

His health became improved, so he accepted a Call to be pastor of the Hilltown, Pa., Church and missionary to the congregation at Doylestown, which was in a sorry condition. In 1869, he ceased his activities at Doylestown but retained the pastorate of the Hilltown Church until 1873. During this time, he organized a congregation at Dublin, also supplied the congregations at Keller's Church, Springfield, Bridgeton and at Plumstedville. 1868

In 1878, again on account of ill-health, he retired and moved back to Jacksonville in Center County. Seven months before his death he took up his residence in Hublersburg. For the last six years of his life he was confined to his bed and for three years he was almost blind. He died at Hublersburg, December 4, 1888.

The funeral services on December 10 were held in the Presby-

terian Church in Hublersburg, where for a short time some years before he had served as supply. Funeral sermons were delivered by Revs. W. H. Groh and D. M. Wolff. The body was then moved to the Hilltown Church for further services on the next day. Here Rev. Jacob Kehm and D. Rothrock preached German sermons and Rev. F. J. Mohr preached in English.

Two sons, Rev. Dr. Z. A. Yearick and Rev. J. L. Yearick, and a son-in-law, Rev. Dr. T. S. Land, were ministers of the Reformed Church. A third son, Lic. U. W. D. Yearick died in 1899 before being ordained.

References: Messenger; January 2, 1889

Seminary Register

REV. GEORGE WASHINGTON GLESSNER, D. D.

G. W. Glessner was born at York, Pa., April 1, 1806. In his youth he was apprenticed to the harness and saddle trade but did not finish his apprenticeship. Having felt a compelling Call to the Christian ministry, he entered the High School at York, under the direction of Dr. Mayer. He finished his theological studies in 1832 and on May 8 of that year, was licensed by Maryland Classis. He was ordained by the same Classis on May 23, 1832 and entered upon the pastorate of the Waynesboro, Pa., Charge, consisting of four congregations; Trinity Church, Waynesboro, Fisher's Congregation near Waynesboro, and Cavetown and Leitersburg in Maryland.

Here he continued to serve until 1840 when he accepted a Call to the pastorate of the First Church, Lancaster, Pa. This congregation he served for a period of seven years, then entered upon a second pastorate in the Waynesboro Charge in 1847, continuing in that relationship until 1851, when he was called to the

Shippensburg, Pa., Charge. In 1856 he left Shippensburg to assume the pastorate of the Middletown, Md., Charge where he served until 1861. He was then without a pastoral charge for four years, residing during this time within the borders of the East Pennsylvania Classis. In 1865 he became pastor of the Wilkesbarre, Pa., Charge, but left after a service of eight months. He then returned to Maryland as pastor of St. John's (German) Church at Frederick, which he served from November, 1865 until 1868. From 1868 to 1875 he was without a charge, residing first at Shippensburg and then at Lancaster. In 1875 he became pastor of the Newburg, Pa., Charge and served it until 1878. In that year he retired from the active ministry and moved to Shippensburg where he continued to reside until his death.

While he was at Waynesboro in his first pastorate there, he was married to Miss Besore of that place. Of this marriage three daughters were born: Mrs. Eliza Hoch, Mrs. Amanda Haupt and Mrs. Mary Kefauver. Mrs. Glessner died in 1880. He was married a second time to Mrs. Mary Ann Kohl (Cole).

During his long ministry, Dr. Glessner married nearly one thousand couples. Ursinus College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1877.

His death occurred at Shippensburg on December 3, 1888. The funeral services on December 6 were in charge of Rev. A. R. Kremer.

References: Messenger; December 12, 1888

December 26, 1888

January 30, 1889

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

1889 REV. JACOB SASSAMAN HERMAN

Jacob S. Herman was born at the family homestead in Maxatawny Township, Berks County, Pa., April 10, 1818. He was the son of Rev. Charles Gebler Herman and Mary Sassaman Herman; and the grandson of Rev. Lebrecht Friedrich Herman, D. D., who conducted the famous "Swamp College" near New Hanover, Pa., and where many of our earlier ministers were educated.

The Herman family has given many of its sons to the ministry of the Reformed Church. Lebrecht Friedrich's five sons: Charles Gebler, Fraderick A., Augustus L., Reuben T., and Lewis C. were all ministers of the Church. Also two sons of Charles: Alfred J., and Jacob Sassaman were ministers of the Reformed Church. A son of Jacob Sassaman, Lic. Oscar C. S., died a young man before he was ordained. The only representative of the family now in the ministry of the Reformed Church is Rev. Alfred Jasper Herman, retired, residing in Pittsburgh, the grandson of Rev. Alfred Jasper, Sr., the great-great-grandson of Lebrecht Friedrich, and the son of Dr. Ambrose Herman, a physician, now deceased.

Jacob Sassaman Herman was baptized and confirmed by his father. After having attended the Kutztown Academy and a school at Trappe, Pa., (probably the Freeland Seminary), he received his theological training under his father and his uncle, Rev. J. Guldin. He began preaching at the age of 17, and at 18 he was licensed and entered the ministry.

For more than fifty years he served congregations within a circuit of thirty miles or more, around and in Kutztown, all within the same charge which had been served by his father for fifty-three years. The pastoral service of father and son, therefore, together totalled in length of years more than a century.

During his pastoral lifetime he served the following congregations: Zion, Windsor, Dunkels, Lenhartsville, Oley, New Jerusalem, Huffs, Weiss, Kutztown, Grimsville, St. Peter's, Fleetwood and Mertztown. The last four, under the name of "Fleetwood Charge", were under his pastoral care at the time of his death and which he served regularly to within two weeks of his passing. His record of pastoral service follows: Sermons, 10000; Baptisms, 6000; Confirmations, 4000; Marriages, 3700.

His death occurred at his home near Kutztown on Monday, January 7, 1889, at the age of seventy years. At the funeral services at his late home, Rev. T. H. Leinbach delivered an address. The funeral was then continued at St. Paul's Church, Kutztown, when Rev. S. G. Wagner preached in English and Rev. G. A. Schwedes in German.

On February 16, 1847 he was married to Emeline Lobach. His widow and two daughters survived.

*REFERENCES: Messenger, January 16, 1889.
January 23, 1889.*

REV. WILLIAM AUGUSTUS GRING

William A. Gring was born at Paradise, Turbot Township, Northumberland County, Pa., January 12, 1838. He was the son of Rev. Daniel Gring, for many years a minister of the Reformed Church. His brother, Rev. A. D. Gring, was the first missionary of the Reformed Church in Japan.

After a term in the Preparatory Department, he entered Franklin and Marshall College in 1856, graduating in 1860. He then entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, finishing the course in July, 1862. He was licensed by the Synod in October, 1862, and received a Call to the Loudon-St. Thomas, Pa., Charge, which he declined. In 1863, upon the recommendation of the Theological

Seminary, he was elected Traveling Tutor by the Classis of Carlisle, but declined the election.

He accepted a Call to the Wilhelm Charge (located partly in Maryland and partly in Pennsylvania), near Myersdale, Pa., and was ordained and installed June 8, 1864. He served here for two years; then was called to Harrisburg to serve a missionary congregation, 1865 - 1867. Next he was Assistant to Dr. Steinmetz in the Danville, Pa., Charge for a period of six months. In 1869 he became pastor of the Mt. Moriah Charge of the Maryland Classis and residing at Keedysville, Md. This Charge he served for exactly seven years, October 1, 1869 to October 1, 1876.

In the meantime Mr. Gring's health began to fail. His affliction had to do with weak lungs and it was thought that he would be benefitted by living in a climate of higher altitude. Hence, in 1876 he accepted a Call to the Sulphur Springs Charge in Bedford County, residing at Mann's Choice, Pa. He was here for five years, and in 1881 took charge of the Emmitsburg, Md., Charge, or which he was pastor for only little more than a year.

By this time the tuberculosis which ultimately caused his death had developed to the extent that he was compelled to retire permanently from the ministry and seek again a mountainous climate. He moved to Somerset, Pa., where he lived for two years. In 1884 he purchased a small farm of sixteen acres, located one mile east of Frederick, Md., where he hoped for, if not a complete recovery, at least some relief from the dread disease which now sorely afflicted him. Here in cultivating his farm he lived happily for five years under the circumstances. He engaged in religious service as much as his failing strength allowed by teaching a Sunday School Class in the Evangelical Church at

Frederick, and by serving as organist of the congregation.

His death occurred at his home near Frederick on February 8, 1889. The funeral services were conducted at the home on February 11 in charge of Rev. E. R. Eschbach. He is buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Frederick.

He was married on November 20, 1873 to Miss Emma A. Stonebraker, a member of one of the congregations of the Mt. Moriah Charge, which Mr. Gring was serving as pastor at the time of his marriage. She with one daughter survived him.

Mrs. Gring was the daughter of Elder Stonebraker, a prominent member of the Reformed Church, whose family lived on a fine farm in Washington County, Maryland, overlooking the Potomac River near Sharpsburg, and on part of the Antietam Battle-field. One son, Rev. E. W. Stonebraker, entered the ministry of the Reformed Church, and three daughters were the wives of Reformed ministers: Mrs. S. L. Whitmore, Mrs. David Whitmore, and Mrs. W. A. Gring.

References: Messenger; February 13, 1889

February 20, 1889

February 27, 1889

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. GEORGE WOLFF, D. D. *

George Wolff was born near Harrisburg, Pa., January 11, 1822. He was graduated from Marshall College, with the degree of A. B. in 1847. He spent one year in the Theological Seminary at Mer-

* Not to be confounded with Rev. George D. Wolff.

cersburg and was ordained by Westmoreland Classis in 1848. He was pastor of the Clarion Charge of that Classis for more than a year, and then pastor of the Rimersburg Charge (Residing at Curllsville, Pa.) until 1853. In that year he was called to the Milton, Pa., Charge, which he served until 1860.

The larger half of his pastoral career was spent as pastor of the Myerstown, Pa., Charge, in which his term of pastoral care extended from 1860 until 1888. In November of that year, he reluctantly resigned his Charge on account of the state of his health, and lived in retirement in Myerstown until his death, February 19, 1889, the immediate cause being paralysis. Altogether, he was in the ministry for more than forty years, twenty-eight of which were spent in the Myerstown Charge.

At the funeral services on February 22, the sermon was delivered by Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger. Rev. B. Bausman made an obituary address. Other ministers taking part in the services were Revs. A. C. Whitmer, F. J. C. Schantz, H. J. Welker, G. B. Resser, E. V. Gerhart and D. E. Klopp.

Mr. Wolff received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Ursinus College in 1873. Dr. Wolff was much interested in the establishment of an educational institution at Myerstown, and is regarded as one of the founders of Palatinate College which flourished at Myerstown for many years.

References: Messenger; February 27, 1889

March 6, 1889

Seminary Register

REV. WILLIAM G. HACKMAN

William G. Hackman was born at Milesburg, Pa., May 17, 1819. He was graduated from Marshall College and the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1845 and was ordained by Susquehanna Classis on May 13, 1846.

His first pastorate was in the Freeburg, Pa., Charge, consisting of nine congregations. Here he served for three years. In 1849 he was called to the Adamsburg, Pa., Charge, consisting of five congregations. He labored in this Charge for nearly nine years (1849 to January, 1858). He then served the Kulpville, Pa., Charge until 1866.

Having resigned this Charge, he went West and settled at Burr Oak, Mich. Here he did real missionary work in a community in which the Reformed Church had just organized a congregation and which worshipped in a school-house for several years. Mr. Hackman's endeavors here were very successful. He added many members to the congregation, established it firmly as a congregation of Christian people, under the name of St. Paul's Church; besides erecting and dedicating a substantial brick church building. After nine years of strenuous work at Burr Oak, Mr. Hackman in 1875 received and accepted a Call to become pastor of the Freeport, Ill., Charge, which he served, however, for only two years. He then returned to Burr Oak as supply-pastor of St. Paul's Church which he served for seven years longer.

His last pastorate of two years was at Elkhart, Ind., 1886 - 1888, when he was compelled to resign on account of illness. He died at Elkhart, January 13, 1889.

The funeral services in St. Paul's Church, Burr Oak, were in charge of Rev. J. H. Albright. Rev. Bacher also delivered an address. The interment was at Burr Oak. A family of ten children survived. References: Messenger; February 27, 1889. Sem. Register

REV. THOMAS H. WINTERS

Thomas H. Winters, the son of Rev. Thomas Winters, a pioneer minister of the Reformed Church in the West, was born in Mad River Township, Montgomery County, near Dayton, Ohio, October 12, 1812. Rev. David Winters was an older brother.

When Thomas was a boy, his father became pastor of the church at Germantown, Ohio, and here he grew up with no more educational advantages than were offered by the common schools of his community. Whatever of public educational opportunities he lacked, however, were furnished by his father and his older brother, David. From them he acquired an education of equal level to Academy, College, and Theological Seminary. In July, 1834, he passed a satisfactory examination before the Synod of Ohio and was duly licensed by that Body to preach the Gospel. He was then sent under the auspices of the Synod to serve as a Licentiate in the Somerset, Ohio, Charge, until the next annual meeting of the Ohio Synod. At the session of 1835, he was ordained by the Synod (July 9, 1835) and installed as regular pastor of the Somerset Charge by a committee consisting of Rev. David Winters, John Pence and David Shearer. After his ordination he continued at Somerset for five years.

After 1840 he served a number of congregations in several charges as follows: Evansport, Ohio, 1840 - 1842; Fairfield, Ohio, 1842 - 1844; West Alexandria, Ohio, 1844 - 1849; the Germantown, Ohio, congregation in connection with the West Alexandria Charge, 1847 - 1849; Caesar Creek, Ohio, 1850 - 1859; Highland, Ohio, 1851 - 1861; Caesar Creek, Ohio, as Supply, 1861 - 1866; Carrollton, Ohio, 1866 - 1869; East Union, Ohio, 1869 - 1870; Polk, Ohio, 1870 - 1871; Without Charge, 1871 - 1872; Union Charge, Ohio, 1872 - 1875; Highland, Ohio (second pastorate), 1875 - 1878.

In 1878 he was injured by a wall falling on him, and being thereby disabled, he lived in retirement until his death.

From 1850 his residence was always at Xenia, Ohio. Some of the congregations which he served subsequently were at a considerable distance from his home, so that his pastoral service for twenty-eight years was attended by much inconvenience and hardship.

On May 25, 1835, he was married to Miss Harriet Hivling of Xenia. Mrs. Winters died in 1835.

Mr. Winters suffered a stroke of paralysis on July 1, 1888. A second and a third stroke followed early in the year 1889. These were the cause of his death on April 13, 1889.

The funeral services were in charge of Rev. S. B. Yockey, pastor of the Reformed Church at Xenia. Rev. I. H. Reiter preached the funeral sermon.

Mr. Winters was the father of nine children, four of whom survived him.

References: Messenger; April 24, 1889

May 15, 1889

REV. HENRY WISSLER

Henry Wissler was born near Millersville, Pa., June 5, 1831. He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in 1855 and from the Theological Seminary in 1856. He was licensed by Mercersburg Classis in 1856 and was ordained in that same year by Philadelphia Classis and installed as pastor of the East Vincent Charge, consisting of several congregations in Chester County, Pa. Here he served for two years, then assumed the pastorate of the Manchester, Md., Charge for a term of nearly

three years, until February, 1861. He then took charge of a private academy in Manchester, which he conducted for about five years. In 1866 he was called to the Shepherdstown, W. Va., Charge. In 1870 he became pastor of the Lovettsville, Va., Charge for two years. Then he served the Duncannon, Pa., Charge for two years longer. In 1875 he returned to Maryland as pastor of the Mechanicstown (Thurmont), Md., Charge.

During his first year at Mechanicstown he organized a congregation at Rocky Ridge, Md, under the name "Mt. Tabor", which was added to his Charge. He was, also, able to organize a congregation, "Trinity" in the village of Mechanicstown and to build a substantial brick church for its use. In 1884 Mr. Wissler was compelled to resign and retire for reasons of health (paralysis) but continued to reside in Mechanicstown until his death.

He died at his home, April 13, 1889. Funeral services were held on April 17, with interment in the cemetery in Mechanicstown.

Mr. Wissler was survived by his widow, two sons and a daughter. One of his sons, Rev. Harry W. Wissler, was a minister of the Reformed Church. His widow lived for many years after his death, her passing occurring only a few years ago. The daughter, Miss Jessie, is still living at this date (1954).

References: Messenger; April 24, 1889

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON SNYDER

Mr. Snyder was a native of Central Pennsylvania, his birth occurring at McConnellstown, Pa., December 9, 1836.

His preliminary education was obtained at Tuscarora Academy in Juniata County, and at the Marshall Collegiate Institute at

Mercersburg, where he spent two years. In 1857 he entered the Freshman Class at Franklin and Marshall College and was duly graduated with the Class of 1861. He was graduated from the Theological Seminary in 1863 and in that same year was licensed by the Synod of the United States. In 1864 he was ordained by the Sandusky Classis and installed as pastor of the Akron, Ohio, Charge. However, he did not seem to be able to adjust himself to Western life, so after eleven months at Akron, he resigned and became pastor of the First (Salem) Church at Harrisburg, Pa., (December, 1864), a pastoral relationship which continued to within one month of twenty-two years. In 1886 he became pastor of the Bellefonte, Pa., Charge.

The climate at Bellefonte did not seem to agree with him, being too cold and rigorous for his constitution. In less than three years his health had declined to the degree that he was granted a lengthy vacation to seek relief from his illness in a milder climate. He and his wife spent some weeks at Atlantic City and he was so much improved that he was about to return home when he was stricken with an attack of pneumonia which proved fatal.

He died at Atlantic City, April 20, 1889. His remains were brought to the home of his mother-in-law on West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, where the funeral took place on April 23. Funeral addresses were made by Revs. J. M. Titzel and J. O. Miller. Revs. E. V. Gerhart and E. N. Kremer also had part in the services. Interment was made in Shriner's Cemetery, situated immediately across the street from the residence of Mr. Snyder's mother-in-law.

Mr. Snyder was married on April 20, 1865, to Miss M. Naomi

Elisman of Lancaster. His widow and two children survived him.

References: Messenger; April 24, 1889

May 1, 1889

Seminary Register

REV. JOHN FREDERICK GIESZEL

John F. Giesel, a native of Germany, was born at Metterzimmern, Judicial District Bissingham, Kingdom of Württemberg, December 21, 1812. He spent part of his boyhood years at Freudenthal where he received his early education and was confirmed as a member of the Church.

In 1836 he was married to Catharine Dunke. For the next twelve years there is no record of his life or activities. On March 12, 1848, he and his family arrived in America and settled at Liverpool, Medina County, Ohio. Here he became a member of the Evangelical Association. Several years later he moved to Wells County, Indiana, where he had purchased a farm of sixty acres, composed mostly of woodland. He engaged himself in clearing his land and erection of a dwelling-house for his family. Just at this time, he became intensely interested in religious matters and determined that as soon as his building operations were completed, he would apply for a commission as a Circuit Preacher of the Evangelical Association. He was accepted for this position and made a Circuit Missionary in 1854.

Mr. Giesel was evidently possessed of a real missionary spirit, as the record of his life for some years following will show. He entered immediately and enthusiastically upon the work assigned him, covering a large territory which took him into Ohio and Michigan as well as into many sections in Indiana. He had charge

of fourteen mission stations and traveled five thousand miles annually on horseback. It took him three months to complete a circuit. For all this service he received an annual salary of Thirty Dollars. It is said that at the completion of each circuit, since he would return with his pockets empty, he would be compelled to till his farm or to work at such other labor that he could find in order to earn enough money for his expenses on the next circuit. Mr. Gieszel evidently had some means, for his family never suffered for the necessities or comforts of life during his long absences.

About 1872 he resigned as Circuit Preacher and moved to Newville, Indiana. Here he came into contact with the Reformed Church and was so impressed with its teachings and customs that he asked to be received as a member of the denomination. He was received, October 18, 1873, was immediately ordained as a minister of the Church. In the Reformed Church, his pastorates were at Antwerp, Ohio; Columbia City, Indiana; and in Marion Township, Allen County, Indiana.

Mrs. Gieszel died in 1883. In the same year he retired from the active ministry. On March 31, 1889, he was stricken with apoplexy on his way to church and was found unconscious on the highway. He was taken to a neighboring house and died twelve hours later.

Mr. Gieszel was the father of nine children, of whom only two survived him.

Reference: Messenger; May 22, 1889

LIC. AARON F. KRAUT

Nothing is known of the date and place of the birth of Mr. Kraut, or of his education. He was licensed by East Pennsylvania Classis in 1888. He died of paralysis at Stone Church, Pa., May 18, 1889. The funeral services were in charge of Rev. S. P. Mauger, pastor at Stone Church.

Reference: Messenger; June 5, 1889

REV. REINHARDT SCHMIDT (SMITH)

Mr. Schmidt was a native of Germany. He was born at Ober-nunselen Oberamt - Schopfheim, Baden, on May 15, 1836, of Roman Catholic parents. He arrived in America in July, 1854, settling at Reading, Pa., where for some time as a young man he worked in a hat factory.

While in Reading he developed a desire to study for the ministry, encouraged by Rev. A. S. Leinbach, of whose congregation in Reading young Schmidt had become a member. He began to study privately under Dr. Leinbach's supervision and then entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1862. He was

licensed in the same year by Mercersburg Classis and ordained by the Synod. Later in the year 1862, he began his ministerial labors as a missionary at Glassboro, N. J., where he served for one year. He was pastor of the Dushore, Pa., Charge for three years, and then became pastor of the Trinity Charge in York County, Pa. Here he served for twenty years. In 1886 he returned to Glassboro for a second pastorate of two years. In January, 1889, he assumed the pastorate of Zion's Charge, residing at Swanton, Ohio, where he died on May 21 of the same year, at the age of 53.

The funeral services were held at Swanton on May 24, in charge of Rev. C. Schaaf who preached the funeral sermon. Also, Rev. J. Rettig delivered an address.

In 1863 Mr. Schmidt was married to Miss Anna Holker, who died in 1865. In 1866 he was married a second time to Miss Hannah C. Schaefer, who with five children survived her husband.

References: Messenger; June 5, 1889

July 3, 1889

Seminary Register

REV. HENRY KURTZ, D. D.

Dr. Kurtz was born in Austria of Roman Catholic parents. It was noted early in his life that he was possessed of high mental ability, and of a serious religiously inclined disposition. He spent some time as a youth and as a young man in a monastery, where he manifested a peculiar spirit of obedience to his superiors and thus won the respect and love of the Prior. Under the name of Brother Xaverius, he had charge of the Gymnasium of the monastery. It was hoped that he would become a priest, or at

least, that his services as a teacher could be retained.

However, Mr. Kurtz found himself deviating more and more from the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and toward the ideals of the Evangelical Gospel. In spite of this change of spirit, he was able to retain the confidence and friendship of the authorities of the monastery. But a Papal ruling placed him in the position of being confined to the monastery for the rest of his life, or flight. He chose to flee, and leaving at night, he made his way over the mountains into Silesia.

He was cordially received in Silesia by the authorities of the Evangelical State Church as a candidate for the ministry, and was designated to serve a mixed congregation of Bohemians and Germans, one of the few Reformed Charges in that territory.

Soon, however, he found himself out of sympathy with the State Church and passed over into the Free Church.

He came to America in 1865 under the auspices of the Berlin Association, an organization engaged in promoting Protestantism in America. He became identified with the Reformed Church as pastor of the congregation at Waukesha, Wisconsin. After 1871 until the time of his death, he served as a member of the faculty of the Mission House College and Seminary. He died June 3, 1889.

References: Messenger; June 12, 1889

July 10, 1889

REV. FRANKLIN WILLIAM KREMER, D. D.

Rev. F. W. Kremer was one of the best-known ministers of the Reformed Church during the latter half of the nineteenth century. He was born at Washingtonboro, Lancaster County, Pa., on November 16, 1816. He was the son of F. W. Kremer and Anna Margaret (Yent-

zer) Kremer. Mr. Kremer and his wife were godly people who were devoted members of the Church and lived to see ^{three} of their sons enter the ministry of the Reformed Church: F. W., Jr., Abner R., and Amos H.

Sometime after Franklin's birth, the family moved to York. F. W. Kremer, Jr., attended the York Academy and the Preparatory Department of Marshall College before entering Marshall College proper. He was graduated from the College in 1843, and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1844 (November). He was licensed by Zion's Classis and ordained by Mercersburg Classis during the same year and installed as pastor of the Grindstone Hill Charge, consisting of several congregations situated south of Chambersburg, Pa..

In 1851 he received and accepted a Call to the Lebanon Charge, consisting of the First Reformed congregation at Lebanon, Pa., and a congregation at Annville. In 1865, the Annville congregation was detached to form with other congregations the Annville Charge, after which Dr. Kremer served only the First Church at Lebanon until his death.

While he was pastor at First Church, Lebanon, two new congregations were organized from the membership of his church; St. John's in Lebanon, of which Dr. Henry Harbaugh became the first pastor, and St. Mark's, Lebanon.

His death came suddenly and tragically. On June 14, 1889, he was requested to conduct a funeral, which he consented to do, although Lebanon Classis was to convene for its annual sessions at some distance from Lebanon on the evening of the same day. In order to gain time, he had sent his baggage ahead to the railroad station in time for the train which he expected to take later. As he was driving at the head of the funeral procession on the

way to the Cemetery, and as he was about to cross the tracks of the Lebanon Valley Railroad at a crossing close to Lebanon, his carriage was struck by a train, throwing his mangled body about fifty feet from the tracks, killing him instantly. His horse was cut in ~~two~~. It has been suggested that Dr. Kremer may have suffered a stroke of paralysis as he was driving alone and did not, therefore, see or hear the train.

At the funeral services on June 18, Rev. J. E. Hiester preached in German, and Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger preached the English sermon. The funeral was attended by about fifty ministers.

He was married, April 9, 1846, to Margaretta Keller, who died January 5, 1855. Some years afterwards he married Henrietta Cromwell of Lancaster, who died less than a year after the marriage. Dr. Kremer was survived by three children, one of whom was Rev. R. Leighton Kremer.

In 1869 Heidelberg College conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. Dr. Kremer was a member of the Peace Commission, a member of the Liturgical Committee in 1881, and a life-member of the Board of Home Missions. He contributed many articles to the periodicals of the Church, especially to the Messenger during the latter years of the Liturgical Controversy. Dr. Kremer arrayed himself very decidedly with the Anti-Liturgical party.

References: June 19, 1889

July 10, 1889

Seminary Register

REV. E. H. NEVIN, D. D.

E. H. Nevin, a cousin of Rev. J. W. Nevin, and a brother of Rev. Alfred Nevin, was born at Shippensburg, Pa., in the year

1814 or 1815. He was ordained a minister of the Presbyterian Church and occupied many responsible positions in that denomination. For a time he was President of Franklin College at New Athens, Ohio.

His only connection with the Reformed Church was his pastorate in the First Reformed Church of Philadelphia for a few years. He then returned to the Presbyterian Church. His death occurred in Philadelphia, June 2, 1889. He was buried at Shippensburg.

Reference: Messenger; June 26, 1889

REV. CHARLES FREDERICK SONTAG *

C. F. Sontag was born at Besigheim, Wittenburg, Germany, October 16, 1851. When he came to America is not known. He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in 1877 and from the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1880. He was licensed by East Susquehanna Classis in 1880, and having been elected pastor of St. St. Stephen's (Later, Grace) Reformed Church in Washington, D. C., he was received by Maryland Classis on September 16, 1880, ordained and installed on that same day into his first pastorate.

It was during Mr. Sontag's pastorate ^{that} ~~in~~ the first English (St. Stephen's until 1881, then Grace) Reformed Church in the City of Washington was erected. This was a small building, placed on the rear of the lot which had been purchased some time before by the congregation, and situated at the corner of 15th and O. Streets. This building was dedicated April 30, 1882. This

* The biography of Rev. C. F. Sontag is placed here because it was in 1889 that he ceased to be a minister of the Reformed Church.

church building served the congregation until the erection of the fine Memorial Church about twenty years later during the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Schick.

On May 17, 1889, Mr. Sontag, without resigning the pastorate of Grace Church or giving any notice of his intention, was confirmed as a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church. A few days later, Maryland Classis erased his name as a minister of the Reformed Church.

He was ordained Deacon (In the P. E. Church) in 1890, and Priest in 1891. He served the Protestant Episcopal denomination as follows: Assistant, Church of the Epiphany, Washington, D. C., 1891; Rector of Trinity Church, Upper Marlboro, Md., 1892 - 1898; Grace Church, Washington, D. C., 1898 - 1905; Missionary at Kearney, Neb., 1905 - 1907; Key West, Fla., 1907 - 1908; Esther Memorial Church, Washington, D. C., until his retirement. Upon retiring, he established a residence at McLean, Va., just across the Potomac River from Washington. He died March 1, 1943.

During his Seminary course, he served as Student Supply-Pastor of Zion's Reformed Church at Marietta, Pa.

References: May 29, 1889

June 26, 1889

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. ISAAC KELBACH LOOS, D. D.

I. K. Loos was the son of Conrad Loos, a prosperous farmer three miles from Womelsdorf, Pa. His mother's name was Elizabeth (Kelbach) Loos. Isaac was born on his father's farm in Heidelberg Township, Berks County, Pa., May 15, 1830. He was baptized on

July 30 of the same year by Dr. Hendel who at the time was pastor of the Tulpehocken congregation. During his later boyhood he was confirmed as a member of that congregation by Rev. Thomas H. Leinbach.

Mr. Loos was for a time a student of the Myerstown Academy, and then came to Mercersburg to attend Marshall College, first as a student in the Preparatory Department for a year, and then in the College, graduating in 1852, a member of the last Class graduated by Marshall College. He took his theological course at the Seminary at Mercersburg, finishing his work there in 1854. He was licensed by the Synod and ordained by a committee of East Pennsylvania Classis, May 25, 1854. The committee consisted of Revs. J. S. Dubbs, T. L. Hoffeditz and Charles Becker. On this date he was installed as pastor of the Upper Mt. Bethel Charge, Centerville, Pa. He served this Charge, which consisted of five congregations, for thirteen years.

In 1867, he moved to Bethlehem, Pa., and became pastor of Old Salem Church. After 1869, when the new church was built, the name was changed to Christ Church, Bethlehem. He also served at this time as Supply of the Rittersville, Pa., congregation.

He organized First Church, South Bethlehem, in 1868. From 1871 until 1876, he was Superintendent of Public Schools in Bethlehem. Also, he was Editor of the Reformed Church Herald from 1873 to 1876.

In 1888, St. Paul's Church, Bethlehem, was organized and Dr. Loos was elected its first pastor. He accepted the Call, but his service here was brief. In March, 1889, he suffered a stroke of paralysis. He apparently recovered from this attack and resumed his pastoral activities. However, several months afterwards, a second stroke came, and from that one he did not recover. He

died July 5, 1889, at the age of fifty-nine years.

The funeral services were in charge of Revs. W. M. Reilly, D. E. Klopp, A. S. Leinbach, J. H. Dubbs and J. H. Derr. Rev. D. F. Brendle preached the funeral sermon.

On November 13, 1856, Dr. Loos was married to Miss Anna Butz. He was survived by five sons and two daughters.

In 1884, Dr. Loos received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Heidelberg College. He was the author of "The Life of Cain", "Salome, the Dancer" (both published in 1869) and "Tischgebete". He translated Grob's "Life of Zwingli" in 1883.

References: Messenger; July 10, 1889

July 24, 1889

Seminary Register

REV. WILLIAM M. ANDREWS

Mr. Andrews was deposed by Westmoreland Classis, May 29, 1889, and received into the Universalist Church a month later, at Akron, Ohio. Nothing further is known of him.

REV. ALBERT SNYDER STAUFFER

A. S. Stauffer was the son of Moses and Lavinia Stauffer, and a descendant of Hans Stauffer, who left Altsheim, Germany, to come to America in 1709. Hans Stauffer settled at Valley Forge, Pa., in Chester County. A. S. Stauffer was born December 29, 1842.

His father moved to Douglass Township, Montgomery County, Pa., in 1843 and subsequently to Gilbertsville. The father died in 1869 and in 1870 the mother moved to Pottstown, Pa., where she was still living in 1889.

Albert attended the public school at Gilbertsville, taught at the time by a celebrated school-master of the community, Alexander Hase. Later he was a student at the Mt. Pleasant Seminary at Boyertown and at Washington Hall at Trappe, Pa.

Having decided to study for the ministry, he entered the Sophomore Class at Franklin and Marshall College in 1867, from which institution he was graduated in 1870. He entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1870, and then, following its removal to Lancaster in 1871, continued his theological studies at Lancaster, being graduated in 1873. He was licensed by Goshenhoppen Classis in the same year and was then dismissed to ^{Classis} Lebanon, within the bounds of which Classis he had accepted a Call to the St. Clair, Pa., Charge. He was ordained and installed in that Charge by a committee consisting of Revs. J. P. Stein, H. A. Keyser and J. O. Johnson.

In 1876 he received and accepted a Call to the Berrysburg Charge, residing at Lykens, Pa. The first three years of his pastorate here was full of trouble and trial. Besides illness and afflictions in his family, he had to contend with the coldness and indifference of the Lykens congregation, this condition culminating in the sale of the church building at Lykens by the sheriff. In 1879 his place of residence was changed to Elizabethtown, Pa., although he continued to serve the same Charge. From that date, too, better conditions prevailed and his work was not without success. During this time, he also supplied part of the Armstrong Valley Charge.

On February 1, 1882, he became pastor of the Hummelstown, Pa., Charge, which he served until 1887, when he assumed the pastorate of the Line Mountain Charge, residing at Greenbrier, Pa.

On July 6, 1889, he was stricken with apoplexy and died two

days later (July 8) at the age of forty-six.

Funeral services were held at the home in the evening of July 10 by Revs. R. Duenger and T. J. Hacker. On the next day the services were continued in the church at Hegins, Pa. Sermons were delivered by Rev. T. J. Hacker in English and by Rev. T. Derr in German.

In 1874 Mr. Stauffer was married to Miss Samaria Neiman (Nieman) who died July 2, 1885. On September 16, 1886, he was married to Miss Mary A. Bressler. No children were born of either marriage. Mr. Stauffer was survived by his widow, his mother, and five sisters.

References: Messenger; July 17, 1889

July 31, 1889

Seminary Register

REV. JACOB KLINE

Mr. Kline was born August 24, 1805. There is no record of the place of his birth or of his preparatory education, which was evidently meagre; nevertheless, he was a good preacher and an excellent pastor. His work as such was entirely satisfactory and very acceptable to the people he served in the various congregations of his pastoral life. He began his ministry as a circuit rider in the Evangelical Association about 1835. In 1851 he was received into the Reformed Church and ordained in October of that year by a committee of Lebanon Classis, consisting of Revs. Moses Kieffer, I. E. Graeff, and J. W. Hoffmeier. He served five congregations in what was then known as the Lewiston Charge, located between Hamburg and Schuylkill Haven, Pa. Some of the congregations, at least, were included in what is now the New

Ringgold, Pa., Charge. Here he served until 1865 when the Charge was divided. He retained two of his original congregations which now comprised the newly organized "Jerusalem Charge", which he continued to serve until his retirement in 1882. Thus, during the whole of his ministry in the Reformed Church, he was pastor of only one Charge. During his retirement, he resided at Schuylkill Haven until his death, July 7, 1889, aged not quite eighty-four years.

From his marriage, ten children were born. Mrs. Kline died in October, 1883.

The funeral services in St. John's Church, Schuylkill Haven, on July 10, were in charge of Rev. O. H. Strunck, who preached in English. Rev. H. A. Keyser preached in German.

In spite of his poor educational preparation, Mr. Kline's ministry was exceedingly fruitful, as witnessed by his pastoral record: Sermons 3250; Funerals, 1298; Baptisms, 3730; Confirmations, 1017; Marriages, 810.

References: Messenger; July 17, 1889

July 24, 1889

REV. AMANDUS FENSTERMACHER ZIEGLER

A. F. Ziegler was born in Upper Montgomery Township, Lehigh County, Pa., August 30, 1834. He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in the Class of 1862, and then was a member of the teaching profession for two years.

He entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1864, from which institution he was graduated in 1866, and in that same year was ~~L~~icensed by Lancaster Classis. After being licensed he went back to his former occupation of teaching for two more

years, having charge of the school at Mertztown, Pa. During these last two years, however, he served as supply-pastor of the congregations at Lynnville and Tripoli.

He was ordained by Goshenhoppen Classis in 1868, when he became the pastor of St. Paul's Charge, Leithsville, Pa.. This pastoral relation continued until 1874, when he became pastor of the Keller's Charge at Bingen, Pa., but continued to reside at Leithsville until his death.

During the year 1888, he suffered from a pulmonary disease which developed to the extent that he was unable to attend to his pastoral duties after Christmas, 1888. For more than eighteen weeks before his death he was confined to bed. He died of consumption at his home in Leithsville, July 30, 1889.

At the funeral services at his home, August 3, addresses were delivered by Revs. A. B. Koplin and J. F. Ohl. On the next day, further services were held at Ziegel's Church. Rev. R. C. Cooper preached the funeral sermon. Services at the grave were conducted by Rev. William A. Helffrich, pastor of Ziegel's Church. He is buried in the beautiful cemetery adjoining the church.

In 1869 Mr. Ziegler was married to Miss Sallie Leith of Leithsville. Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler were the parents of eight children. Mrs. Ziegler and seven children survived him.

References: Messenger; July 7, 1889	Also, Seminary
July 28, 1889	Register

REV. D. S. CALDWELL

D. S. Caldwell, the son of William and Susanna (Kurfman) Caldwell, was born in Washington County, Maryland, December 22, 1820. He was reared and educated in Hagerstown.

In early manhood (1842) he went West and settled in Seneca County, Ohio. In 1848 he entered the ministry of the United Brethren Church, in which occupation he continued until 1883. In that year he was received into the ministry of the Reformed Church and served pastorates at Berwick and Zion's Bloom, Ohio.

During the Civil War, he entered the Union Army as a Lieutenant in 1862. In 1864 he was promoted to the rank of captain. He was a prisoner of war in Libby Prison at Richmond, Va., for eight months, but with a number of companions, made his escape through the famous "Tunnel".

Mr. Caldwell died September 6, 1889, at Nevada, Ohio. He was twice married: first to Miss Sarah Creager, August 8, 1843. She died June 1, 1859. His second marriage was to Miss Sarah J. Doyle, September 20, 1860. She, with eight children, survived him.

References: Christian World; November 28, 1889
Messenger; December 4, 1889

REV. ELNATHAN ELISHA HIGBEE, D. D., LL. D.

E. E. Higbee was born near Burlington, Vermont, March 27, 1830. His father had at one time been a man of large means, but lost his property through an unwise endorsement, so that his son was early in life thrown upon his own financial resources. He taught school in Vermont before he was sixteen years old. He was offered an appointment as cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point, but out of deference to his mother's wishes, declined the same. He was graduated from the University of Vermont in 1849 when he was only nineteen years old, and began the study of law.

During his college years he was acclaimed the best foot-ball player in New England, and was a famous cricketer until a ball broke one of his fingers. It is said that on his graduation day at the University, he kicked a foot-ball over a four-story building.

Besides being a great athlete, he was distinguished as a college student for culture in the ancient languages and for his profound knowledge of the best English writers. He was graduated as the leader of his class.

Not long after graduation from college, he was influenced by Rev. George W. Aughinbaugh, his brother-in-law, to come to Emmitsburg, Maryland, to become tutor in the family of Joshua Motter, a prosperous citizen of that place. He says that when he came to Emmitsburg, he was not much interested in religion nor did he have a great deal of faith in organized Christianity, but his daily association with Dr. Aughinbaugh, who was at that time pastor of the Reformed Church at Emmitsburg, and extended reading of the writings of the professors of the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, completely changed his views and confirmed him as a fervent and reverent Christian, so much so that while he was still teaching at Emmitsburg, he began to study for the ministry.

Information as to whether he completed his theological studies while teaching at Emmitsburg or whether he became a resident student at Mercersburg, is not at hand. From the fact that the Seminary Register records him as a student in 1852 and 1853, it seems that he did actually reside at Mercersburg during at least part of his theological preparation. At any rate he was graduated from the Seminary in 1853. In August of that year, he was elected teacher of Mathematics in the male high school at Lancaster and did serve as such for one year. He declined re-election and

appeared before Maryland Classis at its annual session in 1854 as a candidate for licensure. He was licensed by that Body at Taneytown, May 23, 1854. In 1855 he was dismissed as a licentiate to the Congregational Association, Vermont District, and was evidently ordained by that denomination. He was pastor of the Bethel, Vermont, Congregational Church for three years. In 1858 he was received back into the Reformed Church by Maryland Classis and served for a few months as supply-pastor of the Emmitsburg, Md., Charge (May 2 to August 29, 1858) during which time he translated many of the historic records of the old Apple's Church near Mechanicstown.

However, the real reason for his coming back into the Reformed Church just at this time was on account of his election as pastor of the First Reformed Church at Tiffin, Ohio, and also as professor of languages in Heidelberg College, also located in Tiffin.

He served with great success in this double capacity for four years when in 1862 he became pastor of Grace Reformed Church at Pittsburgh, Pa.

However, his term of service at Pittsburgh was brief. In 1864 when Dr. Schaff was on leave of absence from his professorship in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, Mr. Higbee was chosen to fill the temporary vacancy as professor of Church History and Exegesis until Dr. Schaff's return.

But when Dr. Schaff came back from Europe in 1865, he presented his resignation as professor to the Synod and refused to entertain any idea of resuming his work at Mercersburg, although earnestly requested to do so.

In the meantime, Mr. Higbee had given such universal satisfaction in his temporary position that when the Synod met at Lewisburg, Pa., later in the year 1865, it formally accepted

Dr. Schaff's resignation and immediately elected Mr. Higbee as permanent professor of Church History and Exegesis in the Seminary.

Here he served happily until the removal of the Seminary to Lancaster in 1871. It was expected, of course, that he would accompany the Seminary to Lancaster, but for some reason he would not leave Mercersburg.

Then ensued the period of Dr. Higbee's greatest service to the Reformed Church. In 1865 Mercersburg College, sharing with the Seminary the use of the building which had originally been erected when Marshall College was instituted by Dr. Rauch in the 1840's, was established as a standard college of the Reformed Church, fostered by Mercersburg and adjoining Classes, for the education of young men from that area of the Church, and under the presidency of Rev. T. G. Apple.

When the situation in 1871, referred to above, appeared, an arrangement was made whereby Dr. Higbee and Dr. Apple exchanged positions. Dr. Apple became professor of Church History in the Seminary at Lancaster, serving from 1871 until his death in 1898. Dr. Higbee remained in Mercersburg as president of Mercersburg College.

Under Dr. Higbee's administration, Mercersburg College held a high place among the educational institutions of Pennsylvania for sound scholarship. In 1873, a post-graduate department was established for the teaching of theology (although it was never called a theological seminary). Here, under the authority and auspices of the Synod of the Potomac, many ministers of the Reformed Church, especially those from western Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, were prepared for their high calling and gave good account of themselves as pastors in the Reformed Church.

By 1880 the college was in such dire financial straits, that in spite of much hard work on the part of Dr. Higbee and in spite of his earnest appeals for financial assistance to keep the college in existence, which assistance was refused, Mercersburg College as a standard college was closed in 1880. However, after the departure of Dr. Higbee, Dr. Aughinbaugh conducted in the old Seminary building a collegiate institute, co-educational in character, under the name "Mercersburg College", until the establishment of Mercersburg Academy under Dr. W. M. Irvine in 1892. The name "Mercersburg College" was continued long after the coming of Dr. Irvine. It was not until some time after the beginning of the present century that the name became officially "Mercersburg Academy". In 1878 Dr. Higbee paid a visit to Europe for the purpose of studying European educational institutions and libraries.

In trying to save Mercersburg College, Dr. Higbee had unhesitatingly used the most of his personal resources. The failure to keep the college in existence brought his spirits likewise to a low ebb.

But in his case, it was indeed true that "the darkest hour is just before the dawn", for a brilliant career lay ahead of him. In 1881, Gov. Harry M. Hoyt of Pennsylvania, recognizing in Dr. Higbee one of the ablest educators of his day, appointed him to the responsible position of Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Pennsylvania, for a term of four years. Upon receiving this appointment, Dr. Higbee moved his residence to Lebanon; in 1884 moving again to Lancaster.

In 1885 Dr. Higbee was re-appointed for another four year term by Gov. Pattison, because of his "extraordinary qualities of fitness for the discharge of its high duties and responsibilities". On January 1, 1889, he was appointed to a third full term by

Gov. Beaver.

Dr. Higbee as Superintendent of Public Instruction was the idol of teachers, superintendents and school pupils alike throughout the whole State of Pennsylvania. He was known as a great teacher, a brilliant pulpit orator, and a popular lecturer. He was acknowledged by everyone to be a man of great personal magnetism.

Dr. Higbee was married during his residence at Emmitsburg to Miss Lucinda Motter, daughter of Joshua Motter, to whose home he had come as tutor. To them were born five children: Herbert, who died in boyhood or in very early manhood; Fannie, Mrs. George F. Mull of Lancaster; Lucy, Mrs. Sterling Galt of Emmitsburg; Helen, Mrs. Worthington of Lancaster; and Lewis, Rev. Elnathan Lewis Higbee, for many years a minister of the Reformed Church and pastor at Emmitsburg from 1913 until his death in 1942.

Dr. Higbee was not in good health for more than a year before his death, but continued his work as before. On December 10, 1889, while waiting in the railroad station at Mifflintown for a train to take him to his home in Lancaster, he was stricken with paralysis. He was brought in an unconscious state to the home of his son-in-law, Prof. Mull, in Lancaster, where he lingered until December 13.

The funeral services in the First Church at Lancaster, were in charge of the pastor, Rev. J. M. Titzel. Dr. T. G. Apple preached the funeral sermon from the text: Second Corinthians, Chapter 5, Verse 1. Addresses were delivered by Revs. E. V. Gerhart and B. Bausman. Rev. C. F. McCauley also had part in the services.

On the next day, December 17, further funeral services were held in the Church of the Incarnation at Emmitsburg, the church in which he had preached his first sermon. Revs. J. M. Titzel

and W. E. Krebs delivered addresses. Also Revs. U. H. Heilman, pastor of the Emmitsburg Church, S. L. Whitmore, and T. J. Barkley participated in the services. Interment was in the Mountain View Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

In the February (1890) number of the Pennsylvania School Journal, which was issued as a memorial to Dr. Higbee, many teachers and superintendents in the State contributed articles, testifying to the high esteem in which he was held by the whole teaching profession in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Higbee was the author of many articles in the periodicals of the Reformed Church, and in educational journals all over the United States. He was much interested in music and owned a large musical library. When the hymnal, "Hymns for the Reformed Church" was about to be published, Dr. Higbee played an important part in its preparation by selecting and arranging the hymns in conformity with the Church Year. He was the author of a number of hymns, of which the best-known is "Jesus, o'er the grave victorious" which was sung at his funeral.

Some time after his death a unique monument was erected over his grave in the cemetery at Emmitsburg. It is made of an enormous igneous rock, undressed, of dark color, and weighing several tons. It was conveyed and erected over the grave in one piece. The funds for the purchase and erection of this monument were donated by the school children of Pennsylvania. His son Lewis told me that in the collection for this purpose, no child was allowed to contribute more than one cent.

Franklin and Marshall college conferred upon Dr. Higbee in 1867 the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, and in 1887 the same institution conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws.

References: Messenger; December 18, 1889

December 25, 1889

February 27, 1890

April 24, 1890

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

Information from Relatives

REV. FREDERICK FOX (FUCHS)

Frederick Fox (Fuchs) was born at Zueschen, in the Principality of Waldeck, Germany, July 9, 1835; the son of Heinrich and Caroline Orth Fuchs. At the age of fifteen he came with his parents to America, landing at Baltimore in May, 1851.

He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in the Class of 1860, and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1863 or 1864.

He was licensed and ordained by Lancaster Classis, February 4, 1864, and immediately entered upon pastoral work at Harrisburg, Pa. His efforts resulted in the organization of the Second Reformed Church of Harrisburg, in the latter part of 1864.

In November of that same year he was married to Mrs. Sarah Grace Delley, who died March 18, 1877. There were no children.

In 1866 he resigned his church at Harrisburg, and he with his wife set out for California. Arriving at his destination, he was at first employed by the California Sabbath Society for a short time.

He was at heart a missionary. Because there seemed to be no opportunity for him to do mission work in his own denomination on the Pacific Coast, he was dismissed to the Presbyterian Church.

While a minister in that Communion, he organized a Presbyterian congregation at Oakland, Cal., in 1869. Soon afterwards he was received back into the Reformed Church as a member of Zion's Classis. He then moved to San Francisco and was able to organize a congregation in that city of the Reformed Church late in 1869. The next year he organized a congregation at Stockton, and still another at Napa City in 1873. Not only did he establish the Reformed Church on the Pacific Coast, but his missionary zeal was responsible for practically all the strength of California Classis in the early years of its history. This work is all the more commendable in that he was not well-supported by the Eastern part of the Reformed Church, so that while engaged in planting the Church in the extreme far West, he was compelled to earn his bread in a secular occupation.

After the death of his wife in 1877 he made a visit to Japan, where he realized the tremendous opportunity for the Reformed Church, which was then looking for a suitable field in which to establish its first Foreign Mission as a denominational project. His letters and articles in the Messenger largely influenced the Board of Foreign Missions to choose Japan as the seat of its first foreign mission endeavor. He also wrote many articles regarding the California congregations and their claim for support from the Reformed Church.

In 1878 he returned to Napa City, Cal., where for a short time he served as pastor the congregation which he had organized five years before. He then returned to the East and was pastor of the Zwingli (German) Church at Harrisburg, Pa., for a period of two years.

In 1880 he went to New York City and organized the Martha Memorial Church, called after the first name of the most generous

donor to the building fund. He was its first pastor and served it as such until his death.

Soon after he established his home in New York City, he was married to Miss Anna M. Heisser. Of this marriage, four children were born.

He died suddenly of enlargement of the heart in New York City, December 16, 1889. At the funeral services, which were held in the church of which he died the pastor (December 19), Rev. George Seibert preached in German, and Rev. E. V. Gerhart in English. He is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City.

References: Messenger; December 25, 1889

November 6, 1890

Seminary Register

REV. ERDMAN DELORME

Erdman Delorme was born at Hillersdorf, Austria, January 28, 1854. His father, who died young, was a pastor and a descendant of the Huguenots of France.

Mr. Delorme came to America in 1877. For a short time he was a student in a Presbyterian Seminary at Bloomfield, N. J., and then finished his preliminary studies and took his theological course at the Mission House College and Seminary, graduating from the Seminary about 1881. After his graduation he made a trip to Europe to visit his mother and other relatives.

He returned to America in 1882 and was ordained to be a missionary at Port Hope, Mich., under the auspices of the German Mission Board of the North-West. He served at Port Hope for almost five years and then became pastor of Salem Church at Magley, Adams County, Ind. He was an earnest conscientious pastor and was much

beloved by the people he served.

However, while still a young man, he began to fail physically and mentally. His mental failure was the more marked, manifesting itself in loss of memory and serious derangement. The most distressing feature of this mental illness was a constant propensity to suicide.

The congregation at Magley granted him a vacation of three months, so he and his family went to Mrs. Delorme's home at Huntingdon, Ind., for a visit. For a time he seemed to be improved, until one morning a gun-shot was heard and Mr. Delorme's body was found in his bedroom. He died November 28, 1889 (Thanksgiving Day).

The funeral services were held at Huntongdon on November 30. Revs. C. F. Kreite, C. M. Schaaf and H. W. Vitz delivered addresses; Rev. John Rettig had part in the liturgical service.

References: Messenger; January 2, 1890

January 16, 1890

REV. JESSE STEINER

Jesse Steiner was a native of Frederick, Md., where his birth occurred January 19, 1815. He was one of a family of seven children. His parents, Frederick and Margaret Sinn Steiner, were devoted members of the Evangelical Reformed Church at Frederick, so that the son enjoyed every opportunity to grow up in a Christian home and to profit by good example.

He was confirmed in 1832 by Rev. J. H. Smaltz and in that same year became a student in the High School at York, under Dr. Mayer. Altogether he spent five years in his preparatory education,

graduating from the Theological Seminary in 1837. He was licensed by the Synod in 1837. As a Licentiate he served a congregation at Trenton, N. J., for about six months. In 1838 he was ordained by Susquehanna Classis and installed as pastor of a Charge of three congregations in the vicinity of Danville, Pa., where he served for two years.

For some reason just at this time he was under the discipline of the Church, having been suspended from the ministry by Susquehanna Classis for a period of two years (1841 - 1843). These years he spent at Reading. He was restored to the ministry by Lebanon Classis in 1844, and then went West for the purpose of seeking a pastoral Charge. He settled at Lancaster, Ohio, where he served a Charge of seven congregations for two years. From 1846 he was pastor of the Fairfield, Ohio, Charge, for five years. In 1852 he took charge of the Union Charge, consisting of four congregations, with the parsonage at Springfield, Ohio. Then in 1856 he was dismissed to the Congregational Association and was in the pastorate in that denomination at Peoria, Ill., until 1858, when he returned to the Reformed Church.

In that year (1858) he accepted a Call to become pastor of the Glade Charge, residing at Walkersville, Md., less than six miles from his birth-place. This was his longest pastorate, extending from 1858 to 1867. In that year he became pastor of the Taneytown, Maryland, Charge, which he served until 1872.

Then he went West again. He was pastor of the Shenandoah Charge of five congregations, residing at Ashland, Ohio; 1872 - 1875; St. Paris, Ohio, Charge, 1875 - 1877; New Madison Charge, Greenville, Ohio, 1877 - 1879. From 1879 for a while he was without a pastoral Charge, residing in the interim at Millerstown, Ohio.

In 1882 he began his last pastorate, the Bunker Hill Charge, Pulaski, Ohio. In 1885 he resigned this Charge and retired to his farm at Millerstown, where he lived quietly until the end of his life.

He died at his home, December 19, 1889, at the age of 74, having been a minister for fifty-one years. The funeral services on December 21 at Millerstown were in charge of Rev. I. H. Reiter, who preached the funeral sermon. Rev. J. A. Ketrow also had part in the service.

Mr. Steiner was married December 3, 1839 to Miss Sarah C. Leeghou, who died in 1866. Of this marriage, four children were born. In March, 1867 he was married to Miss Mary E. Worman, who, with two sons, survived him.

References: Messenger; January 2, 1890

February 6, 1890

Christian World; December ²⁶~~29~~, 1889

Seminary Register ^{January 23, 1890}

History of Maryland Classis

REV. WILLIAM B. SANDOE

Rev. W. B. Sandoe is an example of a consecrated man who gained many goals in life through labor, patience and vision. It is said that he received only six months of formal schooling throughout his whole life, yet he became a successful minister and performed many unusual, meritorious services for his country and his Church. His boyhood and youth were spent in hard manual labor.

He was born near Harrisburg, Pa., September 2, 1814, the son of Abraham and Nancy Sandoe. He was baptized May 1, 1816 by Rev.

J. R. Reily, and confirmed in 1841 by Rev. Isaac F. Stiely.

In 1835, at the age of twenty-one, he enlisted in Company B., U. S. Dragoons, under the command of General Kearney and served in the army for a period of three years, taking part in the Seminole War in Florida. He came home in 1838 and began teaching school. Before 1850 he had been engaged in a variety of occupations. For five years he was captain of a company in the State Militia and for a while served as Deputy Sheriff of Schuylkill County, Pa.

What theological education he had was acquired from Rev. I. F. Stiely who in 1841 withdrew from the Synod of the United States and organized the "Independent" or "Stiely" Synod which continued in existence until the return of Stiely to the regular Synod in 1860. Mr. Sandoe was licensed and ordained by Stiely's Synod, May 22, 1850. He was a member of that Synod until 1857 when he was received into St. Joseph's Classis of the Synod of Ohio. As a member of Stiely's Synod, he was pastor of the Liverpool, Pa., Charge for nearly seven years, 1851 - 1857.

After having been received into regular connection with the Reformed Church as a member of the Synod of Ohio, he served pastorates at Elkhart, Ind., 1857 - 1859; Bryan, Ohio, 1859 - 1861; and at Port Jefferson, Ohio, 1861 - 1862.

He enlisted in the army again in 1862, organizing and drilling a company and preparing it for service, but he did not accompany it into actual military service. This ~~was~~ activity did not, however, interfere with his pastoral duties.

His successive pastorates from 1862 were: Bristol, Ohio, four years; Neriah, Mich., two years; Canal Fulton, Ohio, two years; Auburn, Ind., four years; Thompson, Ohio, three years; Henschue,

Butler County, Pa., four years; and at Ringtown, Pa., nine years.

Although, due to many circumstances, he was not able to enter the ministry until nearing middle life, he was, nevertheless, able to give forty years of his life to the service of the Kingdom as a pastor. Out of the experiences of his many years as a man of God, the act which perhaps brought to him the greatest happiness was in ordaining his son, Rev. H. H. Sandoe, to the ministry of the Reformed Church.

Although he suffered from Bright's Disease for years, he continued in active pastoral service until the day of his death, January 23, 1890, at the age of seventy-five years.

At the funeral services on January 28, Rev. T. J. Hacker preached in English, and Rev. H. A. Keyser in German. The services were held in the Lutheran Church at Ringtown. He is buried in the Reformed Cemetery, one mile from town.

Mr. Sandoe was married February 21, 1841, to Miss Nancy Alford. Mr. and Mrs. Sandoe were the parents of nine children.

References: Messenger; January 30, 1890

February 13, 1890

REV. HENRY F. KEENER

H. F. Keener was the son of Henry and Susan Keener, whose home was about two ^mmiles north of Greensburg, Pa., There Henry was born November 22, 1835. While yet very young he showed a decided inclination to enter the ministry. By earnest study in the acquisition of his preliminary education and in spite of many difficulties, mainly financial, he held to his early desire and by great perseverance and rigid self-denial, was able to continue his course at Franklin and Marshall College without interruption,

graduating in 1862. Before he could enter the Theological Seminary, he entered the Union Army, serving for a year as a member of the 135th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. After his discharge from the army he was principal of the school at Latrobe, Pa.

But his determination to enter the ministry never abated. When at last the way was open he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1867. He was licensed and ordained by Westmoreland Classis in 1867 and installed as pastor of the Latrobe, Pa., Charge. Under the direction of the Classis he gave part-time service at Johnstown, Pa., with the purpose of organizing a congregation in that community, an effort which failed, however, at that time.

In 1870 he became pastor of Beam's Charge in Somerset Classis, residing at Jennerstown. Here during his five years of service, his ministrations were most successful, especially in the way of church building. During his pastorate in that Charge, three new churches were built and one re-modeled.

From 1875 to 1884 he served Zion's Charge, composed of several congregations in the vicinity of Berlin, Pa. In 1884 he moved to Manor Station, Pa., as pastor of the Brush Creek Charge, where he served for two years. While in this relationship a fine new church at Manor Station was erected and dedicated.

His last pastoral labors were in the New Centerville, Pa., Charge, which, however, he was able to serve for only a little more than a year. In 1887 he retired to his residence at Latrobe, ill physically and mentally. As time went on his mind became more and more deranged. Not long before his death he entered the Asylum at Warren, Pa., where his life ended March 18, 1890, at the age of fifty-four years.

The funeral services at Latrobe on March 21 were in charge of

Rev. A. E. Truxal, his successor in the Brush Creek Charge. He is buried in the M. E. Cemetery at Latrobe.

For several years he was Stated Clerk of Somerset Classis, and Stated Clerk of the Synod of Pittsburgh for nine years.

While he was pastor at Latrobe he was married to Miss Bossard of that place. She, with six children, survived him.

References: Messenger; March 27, 1890

April 24, 1890

Seminary Register

REV. JOHANN HEINRICH HANHART

Mr. Hanhart, who was a native of Switzerland, was born July 13, 1815. He was a graduate of the University of Basel, studying philosophy and theology under Profs. Vischer, Staehelin, De Wette and Hagenbach. He entered the ministry in 1838, taking charge of his father's parish at Gachwang. Being possessed of great mental and spiritual attainments, he soon achieved an enviable reputation as a preacher and pastor, so that he was called to a larger parish at Egg-Aadorf, where he served for twenty-one years.

Then for reasons of health he withdrew from the active ministry for two years, residing at Landikon, Canton Zurich. As his health did not improve, he was advised by his physicians to seek a milder climate in America. He arrived in this country some time in 1864, leaving his family in Switzerland. His entire family was with him in America by 1869, but his wife died in 1872.

His ministerial career in America consisted principally in doing missionary work in Illinois, Wisconsin and Kentucky, but the various congregations he served from 1864 to 1872 are not definitely known. He organized a congregation at La Crosse,

Wisconsin and built a church. After the death of his wife, he again withdrew from the ministry and moved to Cincinnati for a season. In 1874, however, he was pastor at Covington, Ky, which Charge he resigned in August of that year to become pastor of St. John's Church at Chambersburg, Pa., and Professor of Modern Languages at Wilson College. He resigned both these positions in June, 1876 and returned to Cincinnati where he lived in retirement until his death, March 30, 1890, at the age of seventy-four.

At the funeral services on Tuesday, April 1, Drs. Zech, Seibert, Heckmann, Meyer and Kramer officiated.

Reference: Messenger; April 24, 1890

REV. EDWIN ADAM GERNANT *

E. A. Gernant was born at Ontelaunee, Berks County, Pa., February 29, 1856. He was a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College in the Class of 1878 and was graduated from the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1881.

He was licensed by Lebanon Classis in 1881, ordained by Lehigh Classis in the same year, and installed as pastor of Zion's Reformed Church, Allentown. He was married to Miss Ann Julia Unger in May, 1882.

In May, 1890, he entered the Protestant Episcopal Church, was a rector in that denomination for a number of years, serving

* Mr. Gernant's biography is placed here because it was in 1890 that he ceased to be a minister of the Reformed Church.

parishes at Philadelphia, 1891 - 1892; Ridley Park, 1892 - 1899; Towanda, Pa., 1900, and assistant at St. Peter's Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., from 1900 until 1914. He died at Mt. Vernon, N. Y., February 7, 1919.

References: Messenger; May 22, 1890

Seminary Register

REV. JOHN G. ZAHNER, D. D.

J. G. Zahner was one of the pioneer ministers of the Reformed Church in Eastern Ohio. He was a native of Europe. The Seminary Register gives his birth-place as Württemberg, Germany, but the writer of his obituary in the Messenger of May 22, 1890, maintains that he was born at Oberdigisheim, Switzerland. Both sources agree that the date of his birth was December 21, 1820.

He studied at the Mission House at Basel, and then before the end of his theological education came to America in 1845. After his arrival in the United States, he was a student for one term in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. His room-mate at that institution was the late Dr. Herman Rust, when began a warm friendship between these two distinguished men of the Church, a friendship which continued throughout Dr. Zahner's life. He was licensed by Lebanon Classis in 1846 and ordained by Sandusky Classis in 1847.

His first field of labor was in the Shanesville, Holmes County, Ohio, Charge, which he served for eleven years, 1847 - 1858. He then came to the Ragersville, Ohio, Charge of which he was pastor for ten years, 1858 - 1868. Next he served a pastorate of four years in the Stone Creek Charge, New Philadelphia, Ohio. He then returned to Shanesville, but whether to live there in retirement

or to serve a second pastorate in his first Chage, is not clear from the records.

In 1860 he was elected Professor of German at Heidelberg College, but declined the honor. Heidelberg College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1866 or 1867. He was one of the founders of Heidelberg College and Seminary and sent the first donation of books for the library.

On the first day of April, 1890, Dr. and Mrs. Zahner, on account of their ill-health and great age, having decided to discontinue housekeeping at Shanesville, came to make their home with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Klar, at Bloomville, Ohio. Just seven days afterwards, on May 7, 1890, Dr. Zahner died unexpectedly at the age of sixty-nine years.

In 1847, Dr. Zahner was married to Miss Wilhelmina Kappel of Pittsburgh, Pa. They were the parents of ten children, one of whom was a minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Denver, Colorado.

The funeral services were in charge of Rev. D. S. Parks, pastor of the Reformed Church at Bloomville. Dr. Herman Rust, his Seminary room-mate and life-long friend, preached in German. Dr. G. W. Williard preached an English sermon. Dr. Zahner was buried at Bloomville. His widow and all ten children survived him.

References: Messenger; May 22, 1890

Seminary Register

REV. J. B. KNIEST, D. D.

J. B. Kniest was born at Bremen, Germany, August 4, 1834. At the age of 14 he was confirmed by Rev. Dr. Treviranus in St. Martin's Church of his native city.

As a boy he spent much of his time along the waterfront,

being deeply impressed by the great ships which came from every part of the world to dock at the important harbor of Bremen. All this influenced him to decide upon a life career in the navy and at the age of 16 he ran away to sea. But during his first year as a sailor, he was twice shipwrecked, once off the coast of Holland and once along the French coast. Being convinced that he had enough of the life of a seafaring man, he came to America at the age of seventeen and went to Dayton, Ohio, to the home of his uncle, Rev. Mr. Toensmeier, pastor of the Reformed Church at that place.

Due largely to the influence of his uncle he decided to enter the ministry and accordingly entered Heidelberg College in 1853. He was graduated from Heidelberg Seminary in 1858 and was licensed by Tiffin Classis in May of that year.

He was pastor of the Sandusky, Ohio, Charge from 1858 to 1862. His next pastorate, a most successful one, was at Buffalo, N. Y., where he served for twenty-one years. Here he built up a congregation of a thousand members, besides dismissing from time to time enough of his parishoners to form the nuclei of three additional congregations in Buffalo and vicinity. Besides his work as pastor of a large church, he was Professor of German in the Collegiate Institute of Buffalo, and for a time was Professor of German at Heidelberg College (1867 and years following). From 1862 he was for some years editor of the Reformed Church Almanac, German edition.

In 1884 he resigned his charge in Buffalo to become pastor of Emanuel Church, Philadelphia. He served this congregation for five years, retiring from the active ministry in March, 1889. In 1886 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Heidelberg College.

He died suddenly, June 8, 1890, in his pew in Emanuel Church, during the rendition of a Children's Day program, at the age of fifty-six. He was survived by his wife, one son, and four daughters.

References: Messenger; June 12, 1890

June 26, 1890

REV. F. E. VANDERSLOOT

F. E. Vandersloot, the son of Rev. F. W. Vandersloot, was born in Dryland, Pa., October 27, 1806. Besides his father, his grandfather and himself, his two brothers were ministers of the Reformed Church. There is no record at hand of his preparatory education or his licensure, but he was ordained in October, 1827, in Salem Church, Philadelphia, of which his father had been pastor.

Between the years 1827 and 1838 he served several Charges in York and Cumberland Counties, Pa., one of which was the Dillsburg Charge.

In 1838, for reasons not given, he was suspended from the ministry by Zion's Classis. He was refused re-instatement in 1839. In 1841 he was erased by the same Classis but allowed to preach on probation. In 1842 he was restored to the ministry and the next year moved to Gettysburg, but in November, 1843, he was expelled from the ministry by Zion's Classis. He was again restored to the ministry in 1877.

After his expulsion in 1843, he moved to Herndon, Va., where he engaged in farming to the end of his life. He died at his home in Herndon, after a long illness, June 19, 1890.

The funeral services, held June 22, from the residence of his

son in Philadelphia, were in charge of Rev. Charles G. Fisher; Revs. G. H. Johnston and J. H. Sechler assisting. He is buried in Mt. Vernon Cemetery, Philadelphia.

Reference: Messenger; June 26, 1890

REV. PHILIP P. A. HOFFMAN

P. P. A. Hoffman, the son of Paul and Catharine Hoffman, was born at Cherrysville, Northampton County, Pa., March 25, 1836. He was baptized and confirmed by Rev. J. C. Becker.

In preparing for the ministry, he attended Millersville State Normal School, Franklin and Marshall College and the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, finishing his thfological studies in 1861. He was licensed and ordained in 1861 by Goshenhoppen Chassis.

It seems that he ^{ser}ved in the same neighborhood throughout his whole ministerial career. He served the Hill Church, Hilltown, Pa., from the time of his ordination until his death; at Lobachsville for twenty-five years; and at various times at Friedensburg (Oley), Huber's, Shoemakerville, Bellman's and Boyertown.

In 1885 he was cited for trial (on charges not recorded) by Goshenhoppen Classis. On the occasion of his trial in July, 1885, he confessed his fault and was forgiven. The citation and trial, however, caused no interruption to his ministry.

Mr. Hoffman died after a short illness at Reading, Pa., June 28, 1890, of diabetes, at the age of fifty-four. The funeral services were held at St. Paul's Church, Reading on July 2. Revs. A. S. Leinbach and C. Z. Weiser delivered addresses in German; Rev. B. Bausman spoke in English. Revs. L. K. Evans and Stephe Schweitzer also had part in the services.

Mr. Hoffman was married in December, 1861, to Miss Mary Stewart. She died less than a year afterwards. He was married a second time, April 14, 1864, to Miss Avavesta Bodder of Bethlehem, Pa. His widow and five children survived.

References: Messenger; July 3, 1890

July 10, 1890

Seminary Register

REV. AMBROSE D. GRING *

Ambrose D. Gring was the son of Rev. Daniel Gring and the brother of Rev. William A. Gring. We have no record of the place or date of his birth, or of his preparatory education. He was licensed by Zion's Classis in 1878.

At this time the Board of Foreign Missions had definitely decided to send out its own foreign missionary, to a field of its own choosing, and under its own auspices. From 1842 until his death in 1877, Rev. Benjamin Schneider, missionary to Turkey and Syria, had been supported by the Reformed Church and was a minister of the denomination, but his missionary activities were carried on under the auspices of the American Board.

Largely through the influence of Rev. Frederick Fox, who had made a trip to Japan, that Asiatic country was finally selected as the field for the Reformed Church's first foreign missionary under its own auspices. After the Board had made its decision known and inquired for a qualified man for the appointment, Mr. Gring in October, 1878, presented himself as a candidate. He was accepted by the Board and sailed for Japan in May, 1879. In November, 1878, previous to his departure, he was married to Miss Hattie McLain of Hagerstown, Md.

Upon his arrival in Japan in the latter part of 1879, he located in Yokohama. In 1883 he was joined by Rev. J. P. Moore and both opened chapels in Tokyo.

Mr. Gring's work in Japan was profitable and happy. In 1885 he made the first translation of the Heidelberg Catechism into the Japanese language.

Mr. and Mrs. Gring returned to America on furlough in 1887 and received a warm welcome from the Church.

However, when the matter of their return to the field at the end of their furlough was imminent, it seems that some difference between and Board and Mr. Gring, regarding the administration of the Japan Mission, had developed. The result was that in April, 1889, Mr. Gring handed in his resignation as a missionary of the Reformed Church. When that became known, it created a furore in certain sections of the Church. Dr. J. Spangler Kieffer, of whose congregation Mrs. Gring was a member, published in the Messenger an article of severe criticism against the Board of Foreign Missions. Maryland Classis passed a resolution of condemnation of the Board's action. After much published controversy in the Church papers, Mr. and Mrs. Gring finally finally became members of the Protestant Episcopal Church in 1891. They were accepted by the Episcopal Church as missionaries in Japan and served as such in that denomination for some years.

References: Messenger; July 7, 1890

Rev. J. I. Good's History of the Reformed
Church

History of Maryland Classis

* Rev. A. D. Gring's biography is placed here because it was in 1890 that he ceased to be a minister of the Reformed Church.

REV. DANIEL FEETE

Daniel Feete, a native of Middletown, Md., and member of a family which is still prominent in that community, was born in the latter part (after August) of the year 1812. He was a student in the Theological Seminary at York, Pa., finishing his course in 1837. He was licensed by Maryland Classis, May 19, 1837.

From the time of its organization in 1820, Maryland Classis was very home-missions-conscious, since it was the southernmost Classis of the Church, and was in a way responsible for caring as far as possible for the vast territory in which Reformed people were found, as far south as Georgia and as far west as Kentucky. Within twenty years, before 1840, it had sent on its own responsibility no less than nine men to the missionary territory in Virginia and the Carolinas, besides two to Ohio and Western Pennsylvania.

Of these missionaries, Daniel Feete was one. As soon as he was ordained by the Classis in October, 1837, he went, under the auspices of and partly supported by the Classis, into Virginia as pastor of the Loudon Charge, near Lovettsville. Here he served but one year, then was called to the Taneytown, Md., Charge, consisting of three congregations. In 1841 he went back to Virginia as assistant to the Rev. Dr. John Brown (Braun) in the Mt. Crawford Charge. After Dr. Brown's death, he was elected pastor of the Charge and served it for eight years more, until 1858. He then became pastor of the Woodstock, Va., Charge.

When the Civil War began, Mr. Feete, who sympathized with the Union Cause, was uncomfortable at Woodstock and desired to come into northern territory. The fact that his wife was very ill at

the time prevented his immediate departure. After the death of his wife in 1862, he with his two children made his way in the early part of 1863 to Chambersburg, thence to Philadelphia, where he resided until 1869.

It must be said that while Mr. Feete and his family were in Woodstock, they were treated with the utmost kindness by the members of the congregation and by the people of the community. This was especially true in the attentions of kindness which were given Mrs. Feete during her illness. After her death, every consideration was shown Mr. Feete. His wife was buried in the cemetery connected with the Church at the expense of the congregation. There was no intimation in the friendship of the people and their personal contacts that they and he differed in opinion during the waging of a civil war.

For several years after he came to Philadelphia, he occupied himself with lecturing and preaching when opportunity arose. In 1866 he became the agent of the Publication Board and continued in that position for three years.

In 1870 he organized Trinity (Second) Church at Norristown, Pa., and served as its first pastor. After a ^{four} ~~two~~ year pastorate, during which time a new church building was erected for Trinity congregation, he resigned and retired from the active ministry; however, still doing supply work when needed. He continued to reside in Norristown until his death.

On the Sunday before his death he was stricken with paralysis while conducting a church service in the pulpit of Boehm's Church at Blue Bell, Pa. He was conveyed to his home and died a few days afterwards, August 2, 1890.

The funeral services on August 7, were in charge of Rev. J. B. Henry. Four ministers of the Reformed Church served as pall-

bearers. His body was interred in Montgomery Cemetery near Norristown.

In December, 1838, he was married to Miss Charlotte Helffenstein, who died at Woodstock in 1862. He was married a second time, but the name of his second wife and the date of the marriage are not given. He was survived by his widow and three children.

References: Messenger; August 7, 1890

August 28, 1890

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. JOHN HENRY AUGUSTUS BOMBERGER, D. D., LL. D.

Dr. Bomberger was one of the best known and highly respected ministers and educators of the Reformed Church in the nineteenth century. He was the son of George H. and Mary Hoffmeier Bomberger, who were both members of the Reformed Church, as were their ancestors for generations back. Mrs. Bomberger was the daughter of Rev. John Henry Hoffmeier, who was for many years pastor of the First Reformed Church at Lancaster, Pa.

Dr. Bomberger was born at Lancaster, January 13, 1817. He was baptized and confirmed in the old First Church by his grand-father, Rev. J. H. Hoffmeier.

In 1827 he entered Lancaster Academy (that could be Franklin College, which by that time had lost its standing as a college and was being operated on the academy level). In 1832, he became a student in the High School at York, where he did college work, and after a year, added some of the courses in theology to his regular college program. When the High School was moved in 1835 to Mercersburg, to become Marshall College, under the presidency

of Dr. F. A. Rauch, young Bomberger came to Mercersburg also, continuing his college course until his graduation in 1837. He was the first graduate of Marshall College.

Inasmuch as the Theological Seminary had not yet been moved to Mercersburg, and upon his graduation from College, he had been engaged as Tutor in the Preparatory Department of the College, he entered at Mercersburg under the direction of Dr. Rauch upon an intensive study of theology, which study had been interrupted when he left York. He finished his theological studies in 1838, was licensed in October of that year, and ordained December 27, 1838, by Susquehanna Classis and sent as a missionary pastor to a congregation at Lewistown, Pa., where he served for twenty months.

In July, 1840, he became pastor of the Waynesboro, Pa. Charge, consisting of four congregations, Waynesboro and Salem in Pennsylvania; Cavetown and Leitersburg in Maryland. This service continued until April, 1845, when he was called to be English pastor of the First Church, Easton, Pa., as successor to Dr. B. C. Wolff, who had accepted a Call to the newly-organized Third Church of Baltimore, Md. His German colleague at Easton was Rev. Thomas Pomp.

In August of 1852, Mr. Bomberger received a Call to become the pastor of the Race St. (First) Church of Philadelphia, and he was inclined to accept it, but his departure was so vehemently opposed by the Easton congregation that he yielded to the wishes of his people and remained at Easton. Two years later the Call was renewed and this time Dr. Bomberger was allowed to resign and close his service at Easton without opposition by the people of the congregation.

During his pastorate at Easton, four new congregations were

organized in the city and its vicinity, from material dismissed from the First Church. However, in spite of these losses, First Church continued to grow in membership and influence.

During Dr. Bomberger's pastorate in Philadelphia, the bitter liturgical controversy in the Reformed Church developed and crystallized. Dr. Bomberger opposed the Mercersburg Theology as developed by Dr. Nevin and his friends, and so became the center and the victim of much abuse by the Liturgical Party. On one occasion, in defense of his position, he had published some statements, innocent in themselves, which were so deeply resented by his antagonists that the Eastern Synod, which was that year under the control of the High Church faction, and during Dr. Bomberger's absence from the floor of the Synod, passed a threatening resolution, ordering Dr. Bomberger to make a complete retraction or become the object of discipline and lose his standing as a member of the Synod. Under such pressure and to save himself further humiliation, Dr. Bomberger made the retraction, but evidently the Synod was afterwards ashamed of its unjust and unfraternal action, and elected him as its president at its annual sessions the next year. In time, Dr. Bomberger was regarded as the head and spokesman for the Anti-Liturgical Party until the Peace Movement some years later.

In the meantime, his party in the Church, in order to provide an educational institution free from the influence of the Mercersburg Theology, had acquired possession of the Freeland Seminary located near Trappe, Pa. This became the seat of Ursinus College, organized in 1869 with Dr. Bomberger as its first President. Accordingly, in 1869 he resigned the pastorate of the Race St. Church in Philadelphia and accepted a Call to become

pastor of St. Luke's Church at Trappe, which congregation he continued to serve in connection with his activities as President of Ursinus College until 1883.

Not many years after its establishment, Ursinus College added a theological department to its curriculum. This provoked another storm, initiated by the High Church Party, who resented another theological seminary in the East in competition with the Seminary at Lancaster. The same objection was made to the teaching of theology in Mercersburg College under the presidency of Dr. E. E. Higbee. Synod resolved the whole matter by special action, authorizing the teaching of theology at both institutions. Later the Theological Department was detached from Ursinus College and re-organized as the Ursinus School of Theology, located in Philadelphia, where it continued to function for some years.

Dr. Bomberger received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Franklin and Marshall College in 1853, and the degree of Doctor of Laws from Heidelberg College in 1886. In 1884 he was a delegate to the Alliance of Reformed Churches, assembled at Dublin, Ireland. He was elected President of General Synod in 1890, but did not live to finish his term of office. He was appointed a member of the Liturgical Committee in 1849.

His literary productions were many and varied. Besides numerous articles in the Church periodicals, chiefly on the general topic of "Liturgy", he published his "Youth's Catechism" in 1850; his major article in the Reformed Church Review on "Dr. Nevin and His Antagonists" in 1853; "Five Years at Race St" (containing a complete history of the congregation, together with statistical tables) in 1857; Editor and translator of Kurtz's "Handbook of Church History" in 1860; "Infant Baptism and Salvation" in 1861; "The Revised Liturgy" in 1866; "Reformed not Ritualistic" in

1867. His greatest literary labor was as Editor of the translation of Herzog's "Encyclopedia", of which six volumes were published under his supervision from 1855 to 1861.

In addition, he was a contributing editor of the Christian World from 1870, and editor of the Reformed Church Monthly from 1868 to 1876.

Dr. Bomberger continued as President of Ursinus College to the end of his life. He died at his home, "Zwingli-Hof" at Collegeville, Pa., August 19, 1890. The funeral services, August 23, were held in Trinity Church, Collegeville. Addresses were delivered by Revs. H. W. Super and J. I. Good. Revs. D. E. Klopp, J. A. Peters and E. V. Gerhart participated in the funeral services.

Dr. Bomberger was married, April 11, 1839, to Miss Marion Elizabeth Huston of Mercersburg. After the death of his first wife in 1863, he was married a second time several years later to Miss Julia Aymer Wright of Philadelphia.

Dr. Bomberger was the father of eight children. Two of his sons, Revs. J. H. Bomberger and H. A. Bomberger; and two of his sons-in-law, Revs. H. T. Spangler and F. C. Yost, were ministers of the Reformed Church.

References: Messenger; August 28, 1890

Seminary Register

J. I. Good's History of the Reformed Church.

Fathers of the Reformed Church, Volume III

REV. LEIGHTON G. KREMER

Leighton G. Kremer, son of Rev. Dr. F. W. Kremer, was born at Chambersburg, Pa., in 1853. He was a graduate of Ursinus College and of the Theological Department of the same institution.

He was licensed by Lebanon Classis in 1877 and ordained as assistant to his father in First Church, Lebanon, Pa.

After one year as Assistant Pastor of First Church, he became pastor in September, 1878, of Christ's (Second) Church at Hagerstown, Md., where he served until December, 1887. His next pastorate was at Spring City and East Vincent, Pa., which Charge he served until his death. After a short illness he died at Spring City, August 25, 1890, in his thirty-eighth year.

Funeral services were held at his residence in Spring City early on the morning of August 28; then the funeral party, with the body of Mr. Kremer, went by train to Shepherdstown, W. Va., where further funeral services were held in Christ Reformed Church. At the church, Rev. G. G. Everhart, pastor, was in charge, assisted by Revs. A. S. Weber and B. R. Carnahan. Funeral addresses were delivered by Rev. Dr. Scott of the Presbyterian Church and by Rev. J. Spangler Kieffer.

On account of a delay to the train carrying the funeral party, night had fallen before the services in the church were concluded. The procession to the grave in the cemetery connected with the church was led by a young lady carrying a lantern.

Mr. Kremer was married in December 1886, to Miss Nannie C. Reynolds of Duffield, W. Va., near Shepherdstown. The widow, with two children, survived him.

References: Messenger; September 4, 1890

September 11, 1890

History of Maryland Classis

REV. ALFRED NEVIN, D. D., LL. D.

Alfred Nevin, a cousin of Dr. J. W. Nevin, and a brother of Rev. E. H. Nevin, was born at Shippensburg, Pa., March 14, 1816.

He was baptized and confirmed into the Presbyterian Church of which his parents were members and then attended Washington and Jefferson College at Canonsburg, Pa., from which institution he was graduated. He studied law and was admitted to the bar.

Soon afterwards, however, he abandoned the practice of law to enter the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Allegheny City, Pa., in which his cousin, Rev. J. W. Nevin, was a member of the faculty.

He was licensed and ordained in 1840 and served the Presbyterian Church at Cedarville, Lancaster County, Pa., for five years. In 1845 he was received into the Reformed Church to become pastor of Zion Reformed Church at Chambersburg, Pa., serving as such until 1852, when he returned to the Presbyterian Church. After 1852 he was supply-pastor of Presbyterian Churches in Lancaster County and in Philadelphia. He lived in Philadelphia for a number of years when he took up his residence in Lancaster in 1889, there to remain until his death.

Besides serving as a pastor, Dr. Nevin was an editor of church papers and author of several books.

He died after a long illness at Lancaster, September 2, 1890, at the age of seventy-four. Funeral services were held at Lancaster on September 4.

Dr. Nevin was married to Miss Sarah Jackson of Windsor, Pa. His widow, one son and three daughters survived him.

Reference: Messenger; September 11, 1890

REV. ELIAS WELTY, M. D.

Elias Welty was born at Gettysburg, Pa., about 1821. He graduated from Dickinson College at the early eage of nineteen and then became a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Later,

he transferred his allegiance to the M. E. Church, South. He continued as a Methodist minister until his voice failed, then went to Baltimore as principal of the public schools. While thus engaged he studied medicine and practiced as a physician in Baltimore until 1882. On June 1, 1882, he was received into the Reformed Church by Maryland Classis and licensed by that Body on June 5. He continued as a licentiate until March, 1883, when he was dismissed to Virginia Classis to be ordained and installed as pastor of the Middlebrook Charge, in the vicinity of Staunton, Va. There he served for a little more than a year. From 1884 to 1886 he was pastor of the Harrisville Charge, Tom's Brook, Va.

In 1886 he was elected pastor of the Sabillasville, Md., Charge and moved to that village, but left after a brief service of six weeks before he could be regularly installed. He then returned to Virginia as pastor of the Timberville Charge in that State. In 1888 on account of illness, he resigned and left the active ministry to reside in Baltimore until his death, September 4, 1890, at the age of sixty-nine. For two years before his death he was seriously ill.

The funeral services were in charge of Rev. A. M. Schmidt, assisted by several other ministers of the Reformed Church. Addresses were delivered by Revs. Schmidt and by Rev. J. E. Amos of the Methodist Church. Interment was at Gettysburg.

Dr. Welty was married to Miss Ann Heinler, who, with one son and one daughter, survived him.

References: Messenger; September 11, 1890

History of Maryland Classis

REV. JOHN SHARPLEY FOULK, D. D. *

J. S. Foulk was born at Lebanon, Pa., December 21, 1820, and was graduated from Marshall College in 1843. Inasmuch as he had taken part of his theological course while a student at college he was able to graduate from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1844. In that same year he was licensed and ordained by Philadelphia Classis, and placed in charge of Brownback's (St. Matthew's) Charge in Chester County, Pa. After one year, he became pastor of the Shippensburg, Pa., Charge which he served from 1845 to 1850. He was next pastor of the Greencastle, Pa., Charge from 1850 to 1857. In 1858 he came to the Third Reformed Church at Baltimore, Md., as the successor of Dr. B. C. Wolff. His pastorate here continued until 1870 when he took charge of the congregation at Carlisle, Pa. Here he served for four years until in 1874 he was dismissed to the Presbyterian Church.

As a Presbyterian pastor he served successively at Williamsport, Md., 1875 - 1876; Northumberland, Pa., 1876 - 1879; Stockton, N. J., 1879 - 1884; and at Garrett Memorial Church, Oakland, Md., 1884 - 1890.

His death, caused by sciatica, occurred at the home of his son in Northumberland, October 4, 1890, at the age of sixty-nine.

In August, 1845, he was married to Miss Margaret S. Matthews. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, but the year or the name of the institution granting the degree are not known.

References: Messenger; October 16, 1890

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. JOHN J. BRECHT

John J. Brecht was a native of Germany, where he was born in the year 1812. In 1846 he came to America and settled in Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

Through the influence of Rev. H. A. Winters he was induced to enter the ministry, but we have no record of his preparatory education in either Germany or America. He was licensed by Tiffin Classis in 1853. Although he was a man of middle age when he entered the ministry, he lived long enough to give almost forty years to the pastorate, always giving a good account of his Calling.

His pastorates were as follows: Upper Sandusky, Ohio, 1854 - 1856; German Church, Huntingdon, Ind., 1856 - 1858; Ashford, Wisc., 1858 - 1861; Girard, Iowa, 1861 - 1868. His last Charge at Sauk City, Wisc., was the longest in term of years, extending for twenty-two years. From Sauk City he also served the congregation at Prairie du Sac. He retired in 1890 shortly before his death.

He died at Sauk City, September 27, 1890, at the age of seventy-eight. At the funeral services on September 30, Rev. Hinske preached the sermon and Rev. J. J. Grueninger had part in the services.

Mr. Brecht was married to Miss Barbara Laux, who died leaving six children. In 1868 he was married to Miss Koch.

Reference: Messenger; October 16, 1890

REV. JOHN CONRAD HAUSER

In the year 1859, two Swiss youths, just coming into manhood and traveling together, arrived in America. They were to become well and favorably known ministers of the Reformed Church and were destined to serve congregations in the same city as near neighbors. They were J. C. Hauser and Marcus Bachman. The latter lived to preach the funeral sermon of his companion and was a pastor in the City of Baltimore for many years afterwards.

J. C. Hauser was born at Poppelzen, Canton Zurich, Switzerland, January 26, 1838. He was the father of Rev. Dr. C. A. Hauser, for many years connected with the Publication and Sunday School interests of the Church.

Mr. Hauser had received what was known as a "Real-Schul" education in Zurich and entered the office of a notary in the same city. But his mind and heart were set upon entering the Christian ministry, hence in September, 1858, he began the study of theology in St. Chriscona Mission House.

Soon after his arrival in America he became a student at Franklin and Marshall College where he remained ~~for~~ two or three years, and then, in 1862, he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg from which institution he was graduated in 1864. He was licensed by Philadelphia Classis and then ordained by the same Classis in Immanuel Church, Philadelphia. He was placed as pastor of a new congregation in Philadelphia, which had not yet been formally organized. He was soon able to bring about the organization of the group of Christian people whom he served under the name of St. Paul's (German) Church of Philadelphia. In 1868, after four years with St. Paul's of Philadelphia, he came to Frederick, Maryland, to serve as pastor of St. John's (German) Church of Frederick. Here

his work was outstanding. He was able by diligence and consecration, not only to hold together what for years had been a dwindling and hopeless German congregation in a community where German as a spoken language had not been in general use for more than half a century, but he built it up to a condition of stability which prolonged its life for almost half a century longer. This result he accomplished, however, at the cost of his health. He was never robust after leaving Frederick.

In 1872, after having served faithfully at Frederick for four years, he entered into the most comfortable as well as the most fruitful pastorate of his whole ministerial career. This congregation was Immanuel's at Baltimore, Md., which he served in happiness and peace until his death. He died at his home in Baltimore, November 20, 1890, at the age of fifty-two. His health had been declining for a year. During the summer of 1889, he visited his fatherland in the hope of complete recovery through seeing again the hills and valleys of his native Switzerland.

The funeral services on November 22 were conducted at the home by Revs. E. Huber and H. L. Grandlienard. At the Church, Revs. N. Burkart and Cr. Kuschman of St. John's Evangelical Church of Baltimore conducted the liturgical service. Rev. Marcus Bachman, his pastoral neighbor in Baltimore for many years and his companion on the voyage to America in 1859, Pastor of St. Paul's (Fifth) Church of Baltimore, preached the funeral sermon in German from the text: Second Timothy, Chapter two, Verse three. Revs. L. F. Zinkhan and J. Dahlman preached English sermons.

The services at the church lasted almost three hours. The interment at Loudon Park Cemetery took place by moonlight. Rev. A. E. Schade spoke at the grave. The funeral was attended by seventeen ministers of the Reformed Church and of other denominations.

In 1867, just before leaving Philadelphia, Mr. Hauser was married. His widow and six sons survived him. Mr. Hauser is regarded as one of the founders of the German Maryland Classis which was organized in 1874.

References: Messenger; November 27, 1890

December 11, 1890

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. JOHN JACOB CRIST

J. J. Crist was born near Rehrersburg, Berks County, Pa., December 11, 1845; the son of Jacob and Catharine Troxel Crist. His parents seem to have been members of the Lutheran Church, since the son was baptized by Rev. Stein, a Lutheran minister, and then as a youth, John Jacob was confirmed as a member of the Lutheran denomination.

He studied at the Kutztown and Bloomsburg State Normal Schools in preparation for his chosen career as a teacher, and he did teach a school for several years.

Why he later decided to enter the ministry, and in the Reformed Church, is not known. He entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1873, taking the regular course and graduating May 26, 1876. In the same year he was licensed by East Pennsylvania Classis.

In May, 1877, he was ordained by the same Classis and installed into his first and only pastorate, at Salem Church, Catasauqua, Pa.

It seems that his health was never robust. His ministerial labors were interrupted many times in the few years he was permitted to serve as a pastor. Finally, in 1886, he was compelled on account of ill-health to resign as pastor of Salem Church and retire, to

spend the last years of his life as a semi-invalid. During the last two years he was engaged in secular employment.

In September 1890, he was ill with an attack of typhoid fever, but apparently recovered. However, on December 9, probably as an aftermath of his earlier illness, he was stricken again. He lingered but a few days, breathing his last on December 16, 1890, just five days beyond his forty-fifth birth-day.

The funeral services on December 20 were in charge of Rev. W. F. More, his successor at Salem Church. Funeral sermons were delivered by Rev. T. O. Stem in German and by Rev. H. M. Kieffer in English. Six of his ministerial brethren carried his casket to the grave. He is buried in Miller's Church Cemetery.

On August 21, 1877, he was married to Miss Annie Scheirer. She, with five children, survived him.

References: Messenger; December 18, 1890

January 8, 1891

Seminary Register

REV. SIMON WOLF

Mr. Wolf was born at Lewisburg, Pa., February 22, 1815. Nothing is known of his education or of his occupation until about 1844 when at the age of twenty-nine he became a minister of the Evangelical Association (Albright), serving as a pastor in that denomination in various localities for about thirty-two years. During part of this time he was a Presiding Elder.

However, as time went on, he became more and more dissatisfied both with the mode of administration in his denomination, also with the style of preaching and pastoral service in that Church.

Without being solicited by anyone, he appeared before the West Susquehanna Classis in annual session at Jacksonville, Center

County, Pa., in 1876 and asked to be received into the Reformed Church. He was received, examined and licensed by the Classis. Then he lived at Lewisburg as a Licentiate until 1879, preaching as opportunity offered. In 1879 he received and accepted a Call to become pastor of the Hickory Bottom Charge in Blair County, Pa. Upon the basis of this Call he was ordained October 31, 1879, by a committee of Mercersburg Classis, consisting of Revs. J. D. Miller, D. N. Dittmar and David M. Whitmore. He was installed pastor of the Hickory Bottom Charge at Millerstown, Pa., November 13, 1879, by Revs. C. H. Reiter and I. N. Peightel. During this first pastorate he resided at Martinsburg, Pa.

In 1884 (April 24) he accepted a Call to the McConnellsburg, Pa., Charge, which he continued to serve until his death. During the last two years of his life he suffered from a kidney disease, but continued his pastoral work to the day of his death. He died December 23, 1890, at Mc Connellsburg, Pa., at the age of seventy five years.

The funeral services on December 25 were in charge of Revs. Z. A. Yearick, G. W. Aughinbaugh and J. W. Knappenberger. He was buried in a cemetery about four miles south of McConnellsburg. His widow and two grown children survived him.

References: Messenger; January 1, 1891

January 15, 1891

1891

REV. JOSEPH B. GROSS

Joseph B. Gross was the son of Philip and Joanna Julia Gross, who were people of means and education. Philip Gross had been a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Joseph was born at the family residence, "In the Forks of the Delaware", three miles south of Easton, Pa., in 1802. He was

educated at Wilkesbarre under the supervision of Joel Jones, Esq., afterwards mayor of Philadelphia.

The exact date of his ordination is not known. According to his autobiography he was pastor at Hamilton, Monroe County, Pa., for thirteen years; and then at Bearytown, N. Y., until his death, January 8, 1891, at the age of eighty-eight.

He was married to Sophia Cornelia Pomp, daughter of Rev. Thomas Pomp, pastor of the First Reformed Church at Easton, Pa.

Mr. Gross was the author of a number of books which he published at his own expense, and which always seemed to meet with ready sale.

Reference: Messenger; January 15, 1891

REV. DANIEL CLINTON TOBIAS

D. C. Tobias was born at Berne, Berks County, Pa., the son of pious members of the Reformed Church. He was baptized in infancy in Epler's Church by Rev. A. L. Herman.

His early life was spent in labor on the farm, but as he developed into manhood, he resolved to enter the Christian ministry. Inasmuch as his means were limited, but being naturally of a studious nature, he laid out for himself a preparatory course of study which he diligently and faithfully followed for several years and which gave him practically the equivalent of a college course.

In 1867 he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, taking the full course of three years and graduating in 1870. He was then licensed in that year by Lebanon Classis. Soon after graduating from the Seminary, he received and accepted a Call to the Bethany Charge in Lancaster Classis, consisting of the following congregations: Bethany, near ^{Ephrata} ~~Littitz~~, Pa., Brickerville, White Oak and New Haven' (although one account says that the Charge at this time consisted of five congregations). ^{Lincoln, but dropped at the very beginning.} He also often preached at W. Akron, see Ephrata Review.

This was his only pastoral Charge. He was ordained and installed October 9, 1870, by a committee consisting of Revs. A. H. Kremer, William T. Gerhard, and Frederick Pilgram. Here he served faithfully and happily until his death at Lititz, January 12, 1891, at the age of forty-nine. His last illness, of about two weeks duration, was pneumonia, which developed from a bad cold, caught on Christmas Day.

The funeral services were held on January 15, in the Moravian Church at Lititz, which had been kindly loaned for the purpose. The services were in charge of Rev. J. S. Stahr, T. G. Apple and A. C. Whitmer. Rev. I. W. Brobst, pastor of the Lutheran Church at Lititz also had part in the services.

Funeral addresses were delivered by Rev. J. M. Titzel in English, and by Revs. E. V. Gerhart and Rev. C. L. Moench of the Moravian Church in German. He was buried in the Moravian Cemetery, on a lot which had been given by the Moravian Congregation as a mark of their affection for Mr. Tobias. Rev. B. Bausman had charge of the service at the grave.

Mr. Tobias was married twice: First, to Miss Eliza Kaucher. Of this marriage two children were born; one son and one daughter, wife of Rev. J. B. Stonesifer and mother of Rev. Dr. Paul T. Stonesifer.

His second wife was Miss Emma J. Gerhard, daughter of Rev. William T. Gerhard, and sister of Revs. C. S., and D. W. Gerhard. Of the second marriage, one son was born.

Mr. Tobias was much beloved by the people of his congregations and by the residents of Lititz. He was distinguished as a good preacher and an especially efficient and affectionate pastor; also for his studious habits. His diligent study program, begun when he was preparing himself for the Theological Seminary, were continued

just as diligently throughout his whole life.

References: Messenger; January 15, 1891

January 22, 1891

January 29, 1891

Seminary Register

REV. MARTIN ALBERT SMITH

The family of Mr. Smith came from Alsace Lorraine in 1748, settling first in Lancaster County and moving later to Berks County, Pa.

M. A. Smith was the son of Benjamin Smith and his wife, Elizabeth (Albert) Smith, who was a native of Adams County, Pa. He was born near New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., November 22, 1822. He was baptized September 14, 1823, by Rev. F. W. Heim, a Lutheran minister.

In 1829 the family moved to Tyrone, near Landisburg, Pa., where his childhood and youth were spent. His early schooling was limited. He attended school only thirty-three months in all before he entered Marshall College in 1843.

During the school term of 1840-1841, he taught at Markel's school-house, near his birth-place. During the following summer he attended Bloomfield Academy. In the fall of that year (1841) he became a teacher in Cumberland County, Pa. During the term of 1842-1843, he taught at Hagerstown, Md.

By the fall of 1843 he felt that he was ready for college. Accordingly, in September of that year, accompanied by his cousin, Charles H. Albert, who afterwards became the first President of Catawba College, he set out for Mercersburg in a wagon, driven by his brother and carrying all the necessary furniture for his residence at Marshall College: a stove, bed, bedding, table, cooking

utensils and food, for these two young men, due to the desparate condition of their finances which required them to keep expenses as low as possible, boarded themselves, subsisting for the most part on corn-meal, cooked in various ways. The cost of food for both was approximately sixty cents a week.

Mr. Smith was graduated from Marshall College in 1847 and from the Theological Seminary in 1849. He was licensed on May 4 of that year by Zion's Classis.

During the summer of 1849 he served as supply-pastor of the Nittany Valley Charge in the vicinity of Berrysburg, Pa. In the fall of that year he became a teacher in the York, Pa., Institute, where he spent one year, preaching, however, each Sunday at Heindel's School-house near York.

Early in 1850 he received a Call from the Salem Charge in Clarion Classis. He was ordained by Westmoreland Classis October 16, 1850, and installed into his first Charge which he served for one year, residing first at Limestone and then at Landisburg, Pa. His pastoral work in the first year of his ministry was interrupted by an illness which kept him bed-fast all the winter. Hence in 1851 he resigned his Charge and returned to the home of his mother where he remained for about a year until he was fully recovered.

In 1852 he became the pastor of the Aaronsburg, Pa., Charge, which he served until 1856; then from 1857 to 1866, he was pastor of the Hummelstown, Pa., Charge. In 1866 he became pastor of the Dryland Charge, consisting of congregations at Hecktown and Bath, Pa.; a third congregation at Nazareth being added later. This Charge he served until his retirement in 1890 on account of illness. He resided in Bethlehem Township until 1867, and then at Nazareth until his death. In 1885 he resigned the Bath congregation, serving only the Hecktown (Dryland) and Nazareth congregations for the next five years.

On account of an illness from which he suffered from September, 1890, and which incapacitated him from further pastoral service, he offered his resignation, January 1, 1891. After being critically ill at his home for several weeks, he died March 13, 1891, at the age of sixty-eight.

The funeral services on March 17 at his residence were in charge of Rev. D. Kuntz. Further services were held at St. John's Church, Nazareth, in which Revs. More, Lobach, Reily, Levan and Wolbach participated. Funeral sermons were delivered by Rev. T. O. Stem in German, and by Rev. H. M. Kieffer in English. Twenty-two ministers of the Reformed, Lutheran and Moravian Churches were in attendance. He was buried in the cemetery connected with the church.

Mr. Smith was married March 21, 1854, to Miss Mary Kane (Jane) Meyer of Center County, Pa. Mrs. Smith died in 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were the parents of three sons and three daughters, all of whom survived. One of his sons was Rev. Charles M. Smith, a minister of the Reformed Church for many years.

References: Messenger; March 19, 1891

April 16, 1891

Seminary Register

REV. PHILIP ALLISON LONG

P. Allison Long was born near Thomasville, N. C., March 6, 1830. He was educated at Catawba College[?] and then was elected to the State Senate of his native State where he served one term.

He was licensed and ordained by North Carolina Classis in 1858, and called to the Davidson Charge consisting of eight congregations in the same Classis. During his pastorate the Charge was divided, Mr. Long retaining four congregations which were constituted the "Lower Davidson Charge", while his brother, Rev. Thomas Long, was

called to the pastorate of the other four congregations, which had been organized into the "Upper Davidson Charge".

In 1872, Mr. Long resigned and went to Ohio, as pastor of the Navarre (Ohio) Charge, consisting of four congregations. He served here from June, 1872, to November, 1873, when he was called to become pastor of the Taneytown, Md., Charge, consisting of three congregations. Here he served until 1884, when on account of ill health he was compelled to retire temporarily, but continued to reside in Taneytown.

After one year in retirement, his health being improved, he accepted a Call in 1885 to become pastor of the Grindstone Hill Charge, consisting of three congregations - Heidelberg at Marion, Pa., Grindstone Hill and Fayetteville - all in the region south of Chambersburg, Pa. During a pastorate here of nearly six years, Mr. Long resided in Chambersburg.

Mr. Long died suddenly at his residence in Chambersburg after an illness of heart disease of only a few hours, April 8, 1891, at the age of sixty-one. At the time of his death his wife and daughter were visiting in Taneytown.

Funeral services were held in Zion Church, Chambersburg, on April 10, in charge of Revs. F. F. Bahner and Cyrus Cort. Revs. W. C. Cremer and J. B. Shontz delivered funeral addresses. On the next day, interment took place in the cemetery of Grace Reformed Church at Taneytown.

Mr. Long was married November 19, 1874, to Miss Araminta Hess of Taneytown. The widow, two sons and a daughter survived him.

(Note) Not many years ago, I conducted funeral services for Mrs. Long and for one son, Claudius Long, at Taneytown. The daughter, Miss Bertie Long, is still living.

References: Messenger; April 16, 1891

Messenger; April 30, 1891

History of Maryland Classis

History of Grace Reformed Church, Taneytown, Md.

Information from Family

REV. JOHN SHOCKEY WAGNER

J. S. Wagner was the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Shockey) Wagner, who were both members of the Reformed Church, identified with the Salisbury congregation of the Paradise Charge in Somerset County, Pa. He was born in Elk Lick Township, near Salisbury, Pa., July 29, 1848. He was baptized by Rev. Henry Knepper and confirmed as a member of the church at Salisbury by Rev. W. A. Gring.

His early education was obtained in the public school at Salisbury, and then, as he grew up, and being influenced by his pastors, Revs. W. A. Gring and A. B. Koplin, who considered him to be a promising young man for the ministry, he decided upon this Calling as a life career. In preparation for his life's work he entered the preparatory department of Mercersburg College, then under the supervision of Rev. E. E. Higbee. He was so well prepared for college that he was able to graduate from Franklin and Marshall College after three Years' work (1874), with the highest honor, being Marshall orator in his Class.

On account of financial difficulties, he did not at once enter the Theological Seminary, but for one year filled the position of principal of the public schools at Myersdale, Pa.. In 1875 he became a student in the Seminary at Lancaster and was graduated in 1878. He was licensed by Somerset Classis in the summer of that Year.

He began pastoral service in the Stoyestown, Pa., Charge during

the latter part of April, 1879, but was not ordained until June 9 of that year by a committee consisting of Revs. C. U. Heilman, A. E. Truxal and W. H. Bates. On the next day, June 10, he was formally installed as pastor of the Stoyestown Charge.

He served happily and efficiently in this Charge for three years and eight months; then was induced to accept a Call to become missionary pastor of a new English project at Williamsport, Pa. He began work here February 7, 1883.

In this work he faced every difficulty - an incompletely-organized congregation, a group small in number and poor in this world's goods, with no place of worship of their own.

By dint of hard work he was able to complete the organization of the congregation at St. John's (English) Reformed Church. Next, he led the male portion of his congregation to a vacant lot, and working with them as a laborer, completed the foundations of a new church building, which, however, was not erected and dedicated until after his withdrawal from the pastorate of the congregation.

His stay in Williamsport was just short of a year. The climate of that community disagreed with him to the extent that in order to prevent a severe spell of illness, he was compelled to resign (February 4, 1884) and return to Somerset County. The death of his young wife, less than two years after their marriage, also had a great deal to do with his resignation at that time.

He was immediately called to the pastorate of the Zion's Charge, consisting of five congregations in the vicinity of Berlin, Pa.. He began work here June 22, 1884, to continue for two years and eight months, until April, 1887.

While in the Zion's Charge, he organized a congregation at Roxbury, where a new church was built and dedicated as a partial fruit of his pastoral labors in this Charge.

He was next at Bloomsburg, Pa., where he served for one year and ten months. For reasons of health, he resigned this work in February, 1889, to become pastor of the New Centerville, Pa., Charge, where he remained until his death, two and a quarter years later.

Mr. Wagner, never in robust health and with a predisposition to become a victim of diseases of the throat and lungs, became ill in the late winter of 1890-1891. This developed into pneumonia which ended his life, April 27, 1891, at the age of forty-two.

At the funeral services on April 30, Rev. A. G. Gekeler, president of Somerset Classis, was in charge. The body was interred before the services in the church of which he had been pastor. Rev. A. R. Kremer delivered the funeral sermon. All the ministerial members of Somerset Classis, except two, attended the funeral.

Mr. Wagner was twice married. His first wife was Miss Mary Susan Patterson of Stoyestown, to whom he was joined on March 16, 1881, Rev. C. U. Heilman being the officiating minister. She died in March of 1883. He was married secondly to Miss Mary Ellen Miller on November 10, 1884. He was survived by his mother, his widow and one child.

Mr. Wagner gave many evidences of possessing mental and spiritual qualities of a high order. He was thoroughly devoted to the Christian faith, both as an expounder of the Gospel and as a deeply religious man. While a student at Franklin and Marshall College, he enjoyed the unusual distinction of being elected deacon and then elder of St. Stephen's Church, and as such was elected by Lancaster Classis a delegate elder to the sessions of the General Synod in 1875. For a number of years he served as Stated Clerk and Treasurer of Somerset Classis.

References: Messenger; May 7, 1891 Seminary Register
June 4, 1891

REV. DANIEL LANTZ, D. D.

Daniel Lantz was born at Milton, Pa., November 11, 1815. He was a graduate of Marshall College and of the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. After his graduation from the Seminary, he spent at least one year in teaching. He was licensed by Susquehanna Classis in 1843, and in November of that year he was ordained and installed pastor of the Church at Williamsport, Pa., which he served for five years, 1843 - 1848.

From here on the record is not clear as to his activities for a number of years. He is recorded as being at Moreland, Pa., for one year, 1848 - 1849, but whether as pastor of a congregation there, or merely residing there between pastorates, is not known. In 1849 he became pastor of the Danville, N. Y., Charge.

Now again the record diverges. One account says that he served at Elkhart and Bristol in the State of Indiana for twenty years, 1854 - 1874. Another account says that he went from Danville to the White Pigeon Charge in the State of Michigan in August, 1855. It is known that he was pastor at Constantine, Mich., in 1859. In 1873 (October) he went from Constantine to the Forreston, Ill., Charge, where he served for more than ten years, when a stroke of paralysis in November, 1883, compelled him to retire from the active ministry in March, 1884. From then on, he probably made his home at Constantine until his death, May 1, 1891, at the age of seventy-five.

Dr. Lantz had considerable editorial experience. He was, with Dr. Harbaugh, co-founder of "The Guardian". He was also editor of "The Reformed Era" in 1884. In 1887, Franklin and Marshall College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

In 1843, Dr. Lantz was married to Miss Mary Hackenberg, of McEwensville, Pa. Funeral services were held on May 3, by Rev.

H. S. Bailey, pastor of the Reformed Church at Constantine. He was buried in the cemetery connected with the church.

Reference: Messenger; May 14, 1891

REV. ERNEST WILLIAM REINECKE, D. D.

E. W. Reinecke was the son of a minister and the father of a minister, both named John W. Reinecke, both pastors in the Reformed Church.

His father was a native of Helmarshausen, Electorate of Hessen (Hesse), Germany. The father was first a soldier under Napoleon and later served in the Prussian Guards. After his military service he became a journeyman tailor, and as a member of the craft, traveled all over Germany, becoming acquainted with many men of distinction. His wife was Fredricka Schaeffer.

Ernest William, the son, was likewise born at Helmarshausen, December 9, 1822. In 1835, the father being dissatisfied with the political situation in German emigrated to America, bringing his family with him. They settled at Frederick, Md., where Mr. Reinecke plied his trade as a tailor for some years. At the suggestion of Rev. David Schaeffer, pastor of the Lutheran Church at Frederick, and of Dr. Zacharias, pastor of the Reformed Church, he studied privately for the ministry, was licensed and ordained by Zion's Classis and served as pastor of the Shrewsbury, Pa., Charge until his death in 1859.

Ernest William Reinecke was graduated from Marshall College in 1843 and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1846. While a student in the Seminary he was a tutor in Marshall College, 1845-1848. He was licensed, however, by Maryland Classis in 1846 (May 17).

In 1848 he was ordained and installed as pastor of the Millers-

ville, Pa., Charge. After about a year in this position, he considered it his duty to resign and associate himself with his father, whose health was failing and who was pastor of a large and laborious Charge in York County, centering around Shrewsbury. Here he served as Assistant Pastor of the Shrewsbury Charge until 1852. Then for more than a year he was principal of an academy at Norristown, Pa. During the year, 1854, he was supply-pastor of the Vincent Charge in Chester County, Pa.

In 1855 he took charge of St. John's (German) Church at Frederick, Md. Here he was in familiar and pleasant surroundings, with ample opportunity to renew friendships of his youth when his father ran a tailor shop in Frederick some twenty years previously. As pastor of St. John's Church, he spent three happy, profitable years. In 1858 he accepted a Call to the Plainsfield Charge in Northampton County, Pa., with his residence at Nazareth.

Here ensued a long pastorate of thirty-two years, which ended when he was stricken with paralysis in November, 1890. He lived in retirement and in an invalid state until death came to him May 9, 1891, at the age of sixty-eight.

The funeral services took place on May 12. At the home, Revs. A. E. Erdman and T. Kessler conducted the service; Rev. D. Kuntz delivered an address. Further services were held at the Forks Church where Rev. T. O. Stem preached in English and Rev. T. Kessler in German. Revs. J. W. Mabry, J. E. Smith, J. O. Lindaman, T. N. Reber and John Wolbach also had part in the services. Six ministerial brethren acted as pall-bearers. He was buried in the cemetery connected with the Forks Church.

Mr. Reinecke was married May 10, 1859, to Miss Mary Knode of Hagerstown. Mr. and Mrs. Reinecke were the parents of ten children, all of whom, together with his widow, survived him. One of his sons,

Rev. John W. Reinecke II was a minister in the Reformed Church for many years.

Mr. Reinecke was always interested in Education. He had teaching experience as tutor in Marshall College and as principal of the academy at Norristown. He served three terms as a member of the School Board at Nazareth.

In September, 1854, he was elected to the faculty of Frederick (Md.) College (a classical school on the secondary level). There is no record of his having accepted this position, although he may have taught there previous to his coming to Frederick as pastor of St. John's Church in 1855, and, indeed, during his pastorate there until 1858.

In 1877, Mr. Reinecke received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Franklin and Marshall College.

References: Messenger; May 14, 1891

May 21, 1891

August 20, 1891

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. JOHN STUCK

Mr. Stuck was born in Eastern Ohio, August 30, 1823. Nothing is known of his education or of his life before 1856, except that he was married to Miss Mary Jane Maggert, April 3, 1844.

In 1856 he began to preach in an irregular way for the Reformed Church in Darke County, Ohio, probably as a lay preacher or evangelist.

His services as a preacher, in spite of his lack of preparatory education, were evidently successful and attracted the favorable

attention of the judicatories of the Reformed Church. At any rate, he was licensed and ordained in 1859.

The record of his pastoral service is rather incomplete, but it is certain that he was licensed by Miami Classis in October, 1859, and was ordained and installed as pastor of the Dallas Charge, Mat-chetts, Ohio, in November, 1859. He became pastor of the Greenville, Ohio, Charge in June, 1860. How many years he served this Charge is not definitely known. He served the Mt. Pleasant, Ohio, Charge, also, before February, 1882. From 1882 to 1889, the record is blank. In September, 1889, he became pastor of the New Pittsburgh Charge at Boundary City, Ind., and served it until his death. One account says that he served at Hillsgrove, Pikesville and Salem, all in Ohio. It may be that these pastoral fields can be identified with those mentioned above.

Death came by his own hand on May 6, 1891, at the age of sixty-seven, after having been a minister for thirty-two years. No reason for his rash act is known.

The funeral services were held at Boundary City on May 8. His widow, two daughters and one son survived him.

Mr. Stuck was a popular, well-known minister in Darke County, Ohio. He was especially successful in attracting new members into the Church. It is said that as many as one hundred would be received at one time. The total number of accessions under his preaching totals into the thousands.

References: Messenger; June 4, 1891
June 25, 1891

REV. JOSHUA HORLOCHER (HERLACHER) DERR

J. H. Derr was the son of David and Magdalene (Horlocher) Derr. David Derr was a farmer and manufacturer of pumps. His son, Joshua H. Derr was born in Lower Milford Township, Lehigh County, Pa., December 9, 1822. In 1836 the family moved to Montour County, Pa., near Washingtonville. He was baptized by Rev. J. T. Faber, Jr., at the Great Swamp Church, and confirmed by Rev. Daniel Gring, pastor of the Milton, Pa., Charge. He attended the public schools in Lehigh and Montour Counties and was noted even as a boy for having an unusually keen and bright mind, making a good record in his studies, besides showing, at an early age, stability and staunchness of character. Before he was nineteen years old, he had experience in teaching in the Blee School-house in Columbia County and in the Paradise School in Northumberland County.

In 1841 he entered the Preparatory Department of Marshall College. He was graduated from the College with high honor in September, 1847, and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1850. He was licensed and ordained by Susquehanna Classis, March 27, 1850.

Mr. Derr began his ministerial career as pastor of the Selinsgrove, Pa., Charge, which he served for three years. While pastor at Selinsgrove, he was principal of a select school in the same town.

In 1853 (April) he resigned his pastorate to become Rector of the Preparatory Department of Franklin and Marshall College, which position he held until the early part of 1855. During this time, he was also pastor of the Elizabethtown, Pa., Charge for about a year. In March, 1855, he became pastor of the Tohickon Charge in the vicinity of Sellersville, Pa. After two years in this Charge, he resigned in 1857 to become assistant-pastor of Zion's Church at Allentown. The venerable Dr. Joseph S. Dubbs was the senior

pastor. At this time, Dr. Dubbs' Charge included congregations also at Jordan, Egypt, etc.

In 1859, for reasons which do not need to be recorded here, Zion's Church experienced a secession of a minority part of the congregation, who were organized under the name of "St. John's Reformed Church of Allentown, Pa." and elected Mr. Derr as its pastor. Dr. Dubbs continued to serve the original Zion's Church until his retirement in 1861. Mr. Derr served the St. John's Congregation until 1863. In the meantime, both congregations worshipped in the same church building. After Mr. Derr's withdrawal, the St. John's congregation was dissolved and the members returned as members of Zion's Church, under the pastoral ministrations of Rev. N. S. Strassburger.

From May, 1863, Mr. Derr was pastor of the South Easton, Pa., Church for exactly one year; then he moved to the West to become pastor of the Wooster, Ohio, Charge, consisting of four congregations. He served here for more than five years, 1864 - 1869, then took charge of the Louisville, Ohio, Church for not quite three years. In December, 1872, he began service in the Bellevue, Ohio, Charge, where he had a happy and successful pastorate of four and one-half years.

He left Bellevue in June, 1877, to open a school at Henry, Ill., under the name of "Henry College". While at Henry he supplied Reformed congregations in the vicinity. This educational venture proving to be unsuccessful financially, he severed his connection with the College in 1879 to assume the pastorate of the Spring Bay, Ill., Charge, which he served for one year.

In February, 1880, he returned to Pennsylvania as pastor of the Williamsport Charge. Two years later, he resigned and became pastor of the East Berlin, Pa., Charge, consisting of five congregations.

After two years in this pastorate, he moved to the Catawissa, Pa., Charge, where he served for more than four years.

In December, 1890, Mr. Derr, being in bad health, retired from the active ministry and returned to Bellevue, Ohio, to make his home with a married daughter. He had made a trip to Europe in 1888 in search of better health, but returned home without appreciable improvement. He died at Bellevue, June 21, 1891, at the age of sixty-eight.

The funeral services on June 23 took place from the Reformed Church at Bellevue in charge of the pastor, Rev. G. H. Souder. Rev. I. H. Reiter preached the funeral sermon; Revs. H. Rust and L. H. Kefauver assisting in the services. He was buried at Bellevue.

In 1850 Mr. Derr was married to Jane Mary Brobst who died in 1885. He was survived by two sons and three daughters.

References: Messenger; July 9, 1891

July 30, 1891

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1891

REV. WENDEL WASNICH

Mr. Wasnich was born at Wendel, Prussia, January 20, 1808. He came to America in 1840, settling first at Detroit, then lived at Rome, Ohio, for a while, and then later moved to Tiffin. In 1834 he was married to Phillipier Bauser, a native of the vicinity of Mr. Wasnich's own home town in Prussia. Of this marriage there were born eight sons and five daughters.

In 1843 he was converted from the Roman Catholic Church to Protestantism, connecting himself with the Reformed Church. Having decided to enter the Christian ministry, Mr. Wasnich studied pri-

vately for several years, and then was licensed and ordained by Tiffin Classis in 1845. He was a pioneer pastor in North-Western Ohio, organizing and serving many congregations, but we are unable to give the names of his pastoral Charges or the number of years served in each.

His death occurred August 18, 1891, at Pulaski, Ohio, where he was living in retirement. He died at the age of eighty-three years after having been a minister of the Reformed Church for more than forty-six years. He was buried at West Unity, Ohio.

References: Messenger; September 10, 1891

Reformed Church Almanac, 1891

REV. ABRAHAM ROMICH (ROMIG)

Mr. Romich was born at Macungie, Pa., September 10, 1821. He was graduated from Marshall College in 1849, and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1851. During 1850 and part of 1851 he was a teacher, but we do not know in what institution (may have been in Marshall College).

After having been licensed and ordained in 1851, he assumed his first pastorate in the Jonestown, Pa., Charge, which he served for eleven years, 1851 - 1862. He then went to Philadelphia to organize the St. Stephen's (German) Church on Corinthian Avenue. He served this congregation as its pastor from 1863 to 1875. St. Stephen's has since become a German Presbyterian Church. 1877, *

In August of 1876, Mr. Romich became pastor of the Beaver Springs Charge in Snyder County, Pa.. After a service here of three year-s, Mr. Romich resigned to be a missionary in the employ of the Pennsylvania Bible Society, with headquarters in Philadelphia.

His death occurred at his residence in Philadelphia, September

* Held Classis Minister (MSS) June 1, 1877, p. 145

15, 1891, at the age of seventy years. The funeral services were held in the evening of September 17 at his late residence; then in the morning of the next day, his body was taken for interment in the cemetery of Kimmerling's Church near Jonestown.

In March, 1858, Mr. Romich was married to Miss Sabina Stein. He was survived by his widow and two daughters.

References: Messenger; September 24, 1891

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1891

REV. PETER JOERRIS

Peter Joerris was born at Baed, Moers County, Prussia, May 2, 1824. He was baptized four days afterwards and confirmed at the age of sixteen. He landed in America at New York, August 9, 1847.

Nothing is known of his preparatory education. He was graduated, however, from the Heidelberg Theological Seminary at Tiffin in 1857, and was licensed and ordained in the same year.

His ministerial career included pastorates at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, Watertown, Wisc., Sturgis, Mich., Poland, Ind., and a short pastorate at Olney, Ill. We are unable to give the years of service in each of these pastoral Charges, except that he served at Poland for eighteen years. At his retirement from the active ministry a few years before his death, he returned to Poland, where he died October 26, 1891, at the age of sixty-seven.

The funeral services on the next day were in charge of Rev. William Grether. Rev. W. W. Wittenwyler preached in English and Rev. M. G. I. Stern in German; Rev. J. C. Steiner, F. R. Schwedes and I. Schlundt participated in the services.

On March 11, 1850, Mr. Joerris was married to Miss Aletta

Neuman (Mermann?), a native of Merbeck in the same county in Prussia where Mr. Joerris was born. Mrs. Joerris, seven sons and three daughters survived him.

References: Messenger; November 5, 1891

November 26, 1891

Reformed Church Almanac, 1892

REV. C. H. REITER

Mr. Reiter was one of three brothers in the ministry of the Reformed Church, all with the same middle name: Revs. C. H., D. H., and I. H. Reiter.

He was born, October 17, 1816. After graduating from the Heidelberg Theological Seminary at Tiffin in 1855, he was licensed and ordained in the same year and entered upon his first pastorate at Carrollton, Ohio, where he served for nearly four years, until November, 1858. His next pastorate was in the Marshallville Charge at Smithville, Bain County, Ohio, which he served from November, 1858, to November, 1862. He then spent six months in the Union Charge at Western Star, Ohio. In April, 1863, he became pastor of the Wadsworth, Ohio, Charge, which he served until January, 1865. From 1865 to November, 1867, he was pastor of the Berrier Springs, Mich., Charge. Then he served the Aaronsburg, Pa., Charge from 1867 until December, 1874. From February, 1875, until March, 1878, he was pastor of the Augusta Rural Charge, near Sunbury, Pa.. Then for more than three years, until September, 1881, he served the Woodcock Valley Charge, at James Creek, Pa. He was pastor of the Orbisonia Charge in Pennsylvania, for three years, and then from March, 1885, until December, 1888, of the Wills Creek Charge at Glencoe, Pa. He then retired from the active ministry, establish-

ing his residence, first at James Creek and later at Markelsburg, Pa. Here he died after an illness of two weeks, November 17, 1891, at the age of seventy-five years.

The funeral services in the Reformed Church at Markelsburg on November 19 were in charge of the pastor, Rev. C. U. Heilman. Addresses were delivered by Revs. F. A. Rupley, C. U. Heilman and J. W. Pontius. He was buried at Markelsburg. Mr. Reiter was survived by his widow and four children.

References: Messenger; November 26, 1891

December 3, 1891

REV. M. A. MILLER

M. A. Miller was born at New London, Ohio, August 12, 1809. Nothing further is known of him until about 1841 when he was licensed and ordained. He was engaged principally in missionary work in the State of Ohio.

A partial record of his pastorates follows: At Uniontown, Ohio, nine years; and at New Jefferson, Ohio, two years. From 1869 to 1889 he was pastor of the Carroll Charge at Carrollton, Ohio. He retired in 1889 and was succeeded in the pastorate at Carrollton by his son, Rev. W. A. Miller. He died at Lindsay, Ohio, December 10, 1891, at the age of eighty-two.

The funeral services on December 12 were in charge of Revs. Hawk and Rader. He is buried at New London. Mr. Miller was survived by his second wife (nee, Annie Wisler) and five children.

References: Messenger; January 14, 1892

Reformed Church Almanac, 1893

1892

REV. D. D. LEBERMAN

D. D. Leberman was born at Monroe Forge, Lebanon County, Pa., May 16, 1841, the eldest son in a family of twelve children. As a boy he attended the public schools of his community and made such excellent progress in his studies that at the age of sixteen, he himself became a public school teacher.

After a year of teaching, he entered the Swatara Collegiate Institute of which I. D. Rupp, the noted historian, was principal. Here he prepared himself for a business career and at graduation entered the employ of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company at Pine Grove, Schuylkill County. After two years in this position and at the invitation of his uncle, Rev. L. D. Leberman, he went to Meadville, Pa., to which place his father had moved some time before and where his uncle was pastor of the Reformed Church. The purpose of his going to Meadville was to place himself under the instruction of his uncle in preparing for college. After spending six months in concentrated study he entered Heidelberg College and then studied at the Heidelberg Theological Seminary. He was licensed in 1864 and in July of that same year, he was ordained by Revs. H. F. Hartman and L. D. Leberman, and installed as pastor of the Titusville, Pa., Charge.

Mr. Leberman was troubled with asthma during the whole of his adult life. After a year at Titusville, this affliction became so acute that he was compelled to resign and return to the home of his father in Meadville. After about a year, he began supplying the Meadville Charge. His work was so satisfactory that in 1867 he was elected its pastor, and although during the whole time he was in bad health and suffering greatly, he served a successful pastorate of eighteen years in that Charge. During part of this time he also acted as agent for the Publication Board.

In 1885, in the hope of bettering his health in a milder climate, he resigned the Meadville Charge and went to California as a missionary. Since no improvement in his health was noted after a reasonable time, he returned to Meadville and engaged, with the approval of his Classis, in the insurance business with his brother. For a number of years he served as secretary of the Meadville School Board.

He died at Meadville January 2, 1892, at the age of fifty years. His father, Elder Jacob L. Leberman, preceded his son just nine days in death.

At the funeral services on January 5, addresses were delivered in English by Revs. J. M. Schick of the Reformed Church, and by R. Craighead and Reynolds of the Presbyterian Church; and in German by Rev. Kraus of the Evangelical Church.

Mr. Leberman was married, May 8, 1864, to Miss Julia E. Parsons of Tiffin. His widow and two children survived him. He was buried at Meadville.

References: Messenger; January 7, 1892

January 28, 1892

Christian World

Reformed Church Almanac, 1893

REV. JOSEPH KESTER

Joseph Kester, the son of Jacob and Salome (Weis) Kester was born in Whetstone Township, Crawford County, Ohio, November 1, 1829. We have no information regarding his education or life activities until the time of his licensure in 1865. In 1866 he was ordained and installed as pastor of the Manor, Ohio, Charge, which he served until April 1, 1869 (three years). His second pastorate was at

Canaan, Ohio, where he labored for ten years (1869 - 1879). He then went to the Carolina, Ohio, Charge, which proved to be his last field of ministry. He served here for a period of five years and eight months, 1879 - 1884, after which he retired and probably lived near his birth-place in Crawford County. He died in Lykens Township, Crawford County, Ohio, January 3, 1892.

The funeral services were held at Wingert's Corners, Ohio, January 6, 1892, in charge of Rev. F. C. Whitthoff.

Mr. Kester was married in January, 1853, to Miss Seville Schroll. His widow, two sons and six daughters survived him.

References: Messenger; March 17, 1892

Reformed Church Almanac, 1893

REV. JOHN ROMEIS

John Romeis was born in Treysa (Frysa), Kurhessen, Germany, April 9, 1824. We know nothing further concerning him until his coming to America, except that he was at some time connected with the Orphans' Home at Elberfeld, either as a teacher or in an administrative capacity.

He came to America in 1861, and shortly afterwards entered the Mission House Theological Seminary at Sheboygan, Wisc., as a student of theology. He was licensed and ordained in 1863, and installed as pastor of the Herman, Wisc., Charge, where he served less than a year. Between the latter part of 1863 and 1875 he served three pastorates: At Benton, Minn., at LaCrosse, Wisc., and at Benton for a second pastorate.

In 1875 he became pastor of the VanDyne (Dyere), Wisc., Charge and labored there for eight years. In 1883 he moved to Antigo, Wisc., and served the church there until his retirement in 1891. He contin-

ued to live at Antigo until his death on January 25, 1892, at the age of sixty-seven.

At the funeral services at Antigo, January 28, Revs. H. A. Muhlmeier, H. W. Steinecker and L. Zenk were in charge. Interment was made at Antigo.

In 1864 Mr. Romeis was married to Miss Regina Buscher. They were the parents of nine children, one son, Rev. S. Romeis, being a minister of the Reformed Church.

References: Messenger; March 17, 1892

Reformed Church Almanac, 1893

REV. CHARLES FIREY McCaULEY, D. D.

C. F. McCauley, the son of Hugh and Catharine (Houser) McCauley, was born at Ringgold's Manor, Md., a few miles south of Hagerstown, January 5, 1816.

His early education was secured in the public schools of Washington County, Maryland, and at the High School of the Reformed Church at York, Pa. He entered the Sophomore Class of Yale College in 1835, graduating in 1838.

After his college graduation he spent two years in teaching in a family school near Natchez, Mississippi. Returning North in 1841, he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1843. He was licensed and ordained by Mercersburg Classis in 1843.

He served his first pastoral Charge at Mercersburg and Loudon, Pa. He remained in this connection until November 1, 1845, when he received and accepted a Call to the Middletown, Md., Charge, consisting of three congregations. Soon afterwards, two congregations were detached, so that from 1846, the Middletown Congregation constituted a pastoral Charge alone.

He served here until 1856, when he became pastor of the Second

Reformed Church, Reading, Pa. When Mr. McCauley came to Reading, the Second Church was in a deplorable condition, spiritually and financially. The congregation was discouraged, and throughout the Church, expressions of regret were frequently heard because it had ever been organized at all. A debt of more than seven thousand dollars was a menacing threat to the life and well-being of the congregation.

As soon as he was settled, Mr. McCauley, personally, and without any assistance from any member of the congregation as far as is known, began a solicitation from members of the Church and from friends in Reading for funds to pay off the debt. He gave a great part of his time for six years until, due to his consecrated efforts, the last dollar of the debt was paid.

Then ensued a period of spiritual awakening and financial stability in the congregation, and so continued throughout Mr. McCauley's ministry and afterwards, so that the Second Church became one of the most prosperous and progressive religious organizations in the City of Reading. The membership increased to the extent that an assistant pastor was called in the person of Rev. Rufus W. Miller, who became Mr. McCauley's son-in-law. Mr. McCauley served here a successful and profitable pastorate of thirty-six years.

Besides his pastoral duties, to which he attended faithfully, he was a member of the Board of Missions for many years, and a member of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary for an unprecedented period of forty-five years. In 1872, Mr. McCauley received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Franklin and Marshall College.

Dr. McCauley died at his residence in Reading, June 19, 1892, at the age of seventy-six.

At the funeral services, June 27, Rev. D. E. Klopp was in charge at the home. At the services in the Second Church, Revs. J. O. Miller and S. R. Breidenbaugh conducted the liturgical service. Dr. Benjamin Bausman preached the funeral sermon. Addresses were delivered by Revs. J. S. Stahr, E. V. Gerhart and C. S. Gerhart. He was buried in the Charles Evan's Cemetery in Reading.

Mr. McCauley was married May 2, 1844, to Miss Maria Hoke of Mercersburg. Mrs. McCauley died August 13, 1879. They were the parents of eight children; two of whom were Mrs. Rufus W. Miller and Col. C. A. H. McCauley of the United States Army.

References: Messenger; June 23, 1892

July 7, 1892

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

Reformed Church Almanac, 1893

REV. PETER SEIBERT DAVIS, D. D.

P. Seibert Davis was the son of the Hon. Elias P. Davis, a prominent citizen of Boonsboro, Md., who had represented Washington County in the Legislature of his native State. He was in comfortable circumstances financially. This, coupled with Mr. Davis' favorable attitude toward culture and education, paved the way for the son to be able to enjoy the very best educational advantages which were available in his day.

The son, Peter, was born at Boonsboro, Md., March 21, 1828. He was carefully trained by private tutors in preparing for college, so that when he entered Marshall College, he was not only well-grounded in all the preliminary branches of study, but was able also to secure the fullest advantage from the college courses offered. He was grad-

uated from College in 1849. In the fall of that year he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, where he spent more than a year, then transferred to Princeton Theological Seminary, from which institution he was graduated in 1851. He submitted himself for examination and was licensed by Maryland Classis, May 21, 1851. He immediately, without being ordained, became assistant to Dr. Elias Heiner, Pastor of the First (German) Reformed Church of Baltimore, Md. In this position he remained for two years, during which time he also taught Latin in the school conducted by Prof. T. D. Baird of Baltimore.

In 1853 he received and accepted a Call to become pastor of the Winchester, Va., Charge; whereupon, he was ordained and installed into the pastorate by the Classis of Virginia.

The Charge into which he came consisted at the time of several rural congregations besides the Centenary Congregation in the town of Winchester. Mr. Davis' keen powers of observation, together with his sympathetic spirit toward the people who composed the membership of his country congregations, many of whom were the descendants of the original German settlers, extremely conservative in manners and suspicious of new ideas and innovations; all these conditions, coupled with his sense of humor and appreciation of amusing situations, easily furnished an abundance of material and the spirit of his famous book, "The Young Parson", which indeed was not published until several years after he had left Winchester, but is an amusing account of many of his experiences while he was the pastor of that Charge.

Its publication in 1861 created a furore and aroused much indignation in the vicinity of Winchester where the people felt that the book portrayed them and their way of life in a manner calculated to call forth ridicule. But at any rate the book became immensely

popular and several editions were sold out. It was never intended by the author to make fun of the people whom he loved, but rather to show a way of life that was sincere, and although simple and in many ways primitive, much to be admired. Years after its publication, extracts were published serially in the Messenger. As a result of the appearance of these extracts, a new edition was demanded and supplied by the Publication Board.

(Note: Some years ago I had occasion to visit many of the families of that community. In nearly every home, I found a copy of "The Young Parson", which was proudly brought out for my inspection.)

Mr. Davis was at Winchester until 1857, when he resigned to become Professor of Ancient Languages and English Literature at the Mt. Washington Female College, near Baltimore, under the Presidency of Rev. George L. Staley.

It was the intention of Dr. Staley to organize a congregation of the Reformed Church at Mt. Washington, with the name "St. John's", of which Mr. Davis was to be the pastor. A church building was erected in connection with the College, but Maryland Classis, for reasons which need not be discussed here, refused its sanction for the organization of a congregation. Mr. Davis left Mt. Washington in 1860, and after the Civil War opened, the College passed out of existence.

Mr. Davis in 1860 became pastor of Ascension Church at Norristown, Pa., which he served until 1864, when he was called to the pastorate of Zion's Church at Chambersburg, Pa. He was in Chambersburg in 1864 when the city was burned and was one of the sufferers from that catastrophe. The manuscript of his second book, "The Mosaics of the Bible" was in the office of the Publication Board, and was, of course destroyed when the Board's building burned.

In 1875, upon the retirement of Dr. S. R. Fisher as Editor-in-

Chief of the Reformed Church Messenger, Mr. Davis was elected to the position. Thereupon, he resigned his pastorate at Chambersburg and moved to Philadelphia. From 1875 to December, 1887, he was the able editor of our Church paper, performing a service that was in every way satisfactory and much appreciated by the thousands of the Messenger's readers. During the whole period of his residence in Philadelphia, he visited the Eastern Penitentiary every Sunday to conduct religious services for the prisoners.

In his farewell editorial, he gives as his reasons for relinquishing his editorial office, his age, failing health, and because he "was very tired".

Dr. and Mrs. Davis then went to make their home with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pearson, at Plainfield, N. J., then to Chicago, and then to Wyoming, Ohio, a suburb of Cincinnati. Dr. Davis died August 9, 1892, at the age of sixty-four.

Dr. Davis and his family paid a visit to Europe in 1885 in the hope that the voyage would bring about an improvement in his health. Upon his return several months later, he was considerably better for a time, but his trouble soon reappeared and from then on he was never well.

The funeral services on August 13 were conducted by Rev. John A. Peters. He was buried in Cincinnati.

In 1873, Mr. Davis received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Mercersburg College. He was married, January 26, 1860, to Miss Emma Phreaner of Lebanon. Mrs. Davis and the daughter, Mrs. Pearson, survived him.

References: Messenger; August 18, 1892
Seminary Register
History of Maryland Classis
Reformed Church Almanac, 1893

REV. SAMUEL MEASE

Samuel Mease, son of Lewis T. and Mary (Zehring) Mease was born on the ancestral farm three miles South-East of Miamisburg, Ohio, March 13, 1828. His parents were devoted members of the Reformed Church. Soon after his birth, they presented their infant son for baptism, the sacrament being administered in St. John's Church near Miamisburg by Rev. David Winters. In the same church in 1843, Samuel was confirmed by Rev. George Long.

He was always fond of reading and study and was regarded by his teachers as a promising pupil. He attended the elementary school of the neighborhood and then entered the Academy at Germantown, Ohio, under the principalship of Rev. Jacob Pentzer, a minister of the Presbyterian Church. He entered Marshall College in 1849, and when the merger with Franklin College was consummated, he followed the new institution to Lancaster and was a member of the first class graduated by Franklin and Marshall College in 1853.

His name appears on the Records of the Theological Seminary (1854) but the Seminary historians doubt that he was ever a student in that institution. He probably studied theology privately. He was licensed by Lancaster (Ohio) Classis in 1855 and ordained by Miami Classis, October 14 of that same year as Missionary to Cincinnati. He soon organized the Second Reformed Church in Cincinnati (1855), called "The Church of the Cross". This new congregation thrived under the ministrations of Mr. Mease. A lot was bought and upon it a church building was erected and dedicated. However, when Mr. Mease resigned in 1869, no worthy successor was found, hence the congregation later was dissolved and the property sold.

In 1869, Mr. Mease bought from Rev. T. P. Bucher the property of "The Christian World", the religious paper of the Western part of the Church. He conducted this enterprise as a private venture,

although with the approval and support of the Synod of Ohio. The "Christian World" was the official church paper of the Ohio Synod. Mr. Mease published the paper in Cincinnati from 1869 until September 1878, when the place of publication was changed to Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Mease continued as editor for two years longer until April 1, 1880, when he sold the property and moved to Chicago, with the intention of organizing a mission of the Reformed Church there. When this attempt was not successful, he engaged in other employment. However, in Chicago, he edited "Pastor and Pulpit", a bi-monthly magazine, which continued publication for only a short time.

In 1889, after the death of his wife, he left Chicago to live with a devoted son and daughter who had built a house and established a home for their father at Beatrice, Nebraska.

By this time, Mr. Mease's health was rapidly failing, due to an advanced case of Bright's Disease and dropsy. His mind also began to be very much confused.

Then in 1890 his son died of tuberculosis and two years afterwards his daughter succumbed to the same disease. Just a week before her death, Mr. Mease was removed to the Evangelical Deaconess Home at Lincoln, Neb. He outlived his daughter only six days, his own death occurring at the Home at Lincoln, August 17, 1892.

At the funeral services in the Chapel of the Deaconess Home on August 19, in charge of Rev. T. F. Stauffer, Revs. Kanne and Edmund Erb of the Reformed Church and Rev. Groh of the Lutheran Church delivered addresses. Six ministerial brethren served as pall-bearers.

Due to the interest of the pastor of the newly dedicated Reformed Church at Lincoln, Rev. T. F. Stauffer, funds were collected for the installation of a memorial window in the church in honor of Mr. Mease.

Mr. Mease was married in May, 1857, to Miss Amanda Forgey, who

died in September, 1888. He left no survivors.

References: Messenger; August 25, 1892

September 1, 1892

September 8, 1892

Reformed Church Almanac, 1893

REV. JOHN G. RUHL

John G. Ruhl, the son of John Ruhl, was born in Hesse, Germany, December 14, 1827. He came to America with his father in 1838 and settled in Canton, Ohio. His father was a member of the Reformed Church, hence it was not long until the venerable pastor of the Church at Canton, Rev. Peter Herbruck, became interested in this promising young man and influenced him to study for the ministry.

All his preparatory education, together with his theological courses were obtained under Dr. Herbruck's supervision. He was licensed by Columbiana Classis in May, 1845, and ordained in 1847 by the Synod of Ohio. In the same year he was installed pastor of the Eden Charge, consisting of seven congregations, in Columbiana County, Ohio. Soon after his ordination, Mr. Ruhl and his congregations joined the secessionist Synod in Ohio, but returned to the regular Synod in 1848.

In 1849, Mr. Ruhl became pastor of the Southington, Ohio, Charge, residing first at Barryville and then at Marion, Ohio. Here he served for more than thirteen years until 1863. Then he was pastor of the Findlay, Ohio, Charge for more than eleven years. In 1874 he became pastor of the Kenton, Ohio, Charge, where he served for four years. In 1878 Mr. Ruhl resigned his work at Kenton to serve an independent Charge in Wyandotte County, Ohio.

His last pastoral labor was again in the Findlay Charge (second pastorate), which he served from 1886 until his death. He died at

Findlay, October 16, 1892, at the age of seventy-four. He was buried at Findlay. Mr. Ruhl was married, March 17, 1842, to Miss Susanna Dickerhaaf. His widow and ten children survived.

(Note: On account of the presence and pastoral activity in almost the same territory of three other ministers of almost the same name; viz, John Ruhl, John B. Ruhl, and a John G. Ruhl who was ordained in 1875, and because some of these served, during the period from 1847 to 1892, some of the Charges served by the John G. Ruhl whose biography we are presenting, I am not sure that all the information given here, especially with regard to length and location of pastorates, is entirely accurate.)

References: Messenger, November 3, 1892

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894.

REV. OTTMAR G. ESSELBORN

Mr. Esselborn was born June 16, 1849, at Gunters Clum, near Worms, Rhine Hessen, Germany. He attended the Gymnasium at Worms and then spent some time as a student in the University of Heidelberg, Germany.

He came to America in July, 1874, and settled at Chicago, where he came under the influence of Rev. William Hauser and connected himself with the Reformed Church. After some time spent privately in the study of theology, he was licensed by the Classis of Northern Illinois, October 16, 1875. On October 31 of the same year, having received and accepted a Call to the pastorate of the church at Loran, Ill., he was ordained and installed as its pastor. Here he served for more than seven years.

In 1882, he became pastor of the Washburn, Ill., Charge, where he labored for nine years. Then at his resignation in 1891, he went

back to Loran to live in retirement until his death, November 5, 1892.

At the funeral services on November 7, Rev. G. Brunschler preached the sermon. Revs. R. Menke and S. Romeis assisted in the services. We have no information regarding Mr. Esselborn's marriage or family.

References: Messenger; November 17, 1892

December 15, 1892

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. WILLIAM MCCLELLAN REILY, Ph. D.

Mr. Reily, son of the distinguished Rev. J. R. Reily and Louisa McClellan Reily, was born at York, Pa., August 8, 1837. He was graduated from Gettysburg College in 1856 and then spent two years in the Princeton Theological Seminary (1856 - 1858). He was licensed by the Synod of the United States in 1858.

On account of his unusual mental ability and aptitude for theological studies especially, he was elected a Traveling Tutor by the authorities of the Theological Seminary (See: History of the Theological Seminary, by Dr. G. W. Richards, 1952). He accepted the appointment and then spent the next three years studying in German universities. At his return in 1861, he served as Theological Tutor in the Seminary for three years. In the meantime, the Seminary issued to him a diploma of graduation in 1859.

Upon the expiration of his term as Tutor in 1864, he was ordained by West Susquehanna Classis and installed as pastor of the Lewisburg, Pa., Charge, which he served for four years. Then he was pastor of the Jonestown, Pa., Charge for five years (1868 - 1873).

In 1873 he became a member of the faculty of Palatinate College at Myerstown, Pa., and later President of that institution,

During at least part of his time at Myerstown, he was supply-pastor of the Pine Grove, Pa., Congregation.

In 1884 he was elected President of the Allentown College for Women (now Cedar Crest College), and presided over the destinies of that institution for eight years during a critical time in its history. After his service as President of the College at Allentown, he moved to Wyoming, Del., as supply-pastor of a small congregation there and of another congregation on the Eastern Shore of Maryland at Ridgely. This arrangement, although very happy for Dr. Reily, continued for only a few months, being terminated by his sudden death on November 22, 1892, at the age of fifty-four.

The funeral services in the church at Wyoming, on November 24, were in charge of Rev. James Crawford, who also preached the sermon. Rev. F. C. Gibson, rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Wyoming, assisted in the services. He was buried at Allentown.

In 1880, Mr. Reily received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Franklin and Marshall College. He was the author of "The Artist and His Mission", published in 1881.

In May, 1867, Dr. Reily was married to Miss Lizzie Schrack, who survived him.

References: Messenger; December 1, 1892

December 15, 1892

Seminary Register

History of the Theological Seminary (Richards)

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. JOHN KRETZING

John Kretzing was born near Ickesburg, Perry County, Pa., March 6, 1836. In preparation for his study for the Christian Ministry, to which as a youth he had dedicated his life, he attended the academies at Markelsburg, Landisburg and New Bloomfield. Then he taught school for several years. In 1860 he became a student at the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1863. In May of that year he was licensed by Zion's Classis and ordained by St. Paul's Classis, January 1, 1864.

His first pastoral service was given in the Decker Run Charge, Cochranon, Pa.. Here he labored for more than seven years, resigning in the latter part of 1873 to accept a Call to the Lykens, Pa., Charge. He had earlier accepted a Call to Fostoria, Ohio, but St. Paul's Classis objected (reason not given), so he remained for the time at Cochranon.

His service in the Lykens Charge continued from 1873 to 1876, when he returned to the vicinity of his birth-place to become pastor of the Bloomfield Charge which had just been constituted. While in this Charge, his residence was at Newport, Pa..

In 1881 he became pastor of the Christ Charge, near Littlestown, where he remained five years. He then accepted a Call to the Brodheadville, Pa., Charge, where he served until ill-health compelled him to resign and retire in 1889. After his retirement from the active pastorate, he continued to reside in Brodheadville until his death, December 3, 1892, at the age of fifty-six.

At the funeral services at Brodheadville on December 5, Rev. S. F. Laury preached in English and Rev. C. E. Held, a Lutheran minister, preached in German. On the next day, further services were held in the church at Newport, in charge of Rev. W. R. H. Deatrick. He was buried at Newport.

Mr. Kretzing was married to Miss Sallie A. Bernheisel of Green Rock, Perry County, Pa., who survived him.

References: Messenger; December 15, 1892

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

1893

REV. DIODORUS SICALUS DIEFFENBACHER

D. S. Dieffenbacher, the son of Rev. Jacob F. Dieffenbacher, one of the pioneer ministers of the Reformed Church west of Pittsburgh, was born February 26, 1835, at Woodstock, Va., where his father was pastor of the Reformed Church at that place. Several years after his birth, his father was sent by Maryland Classis to establish mission congregations in the extreme western part of the State of Pennsylvania. The father settled at Harmony and there the young son lived until his father's death in 1842. The family evidently moved to Pittsburgh, for there we find young Diodorus as a very young man clerking in a shoe store. With the financial aid of some friends he was soon able to open a store of his own. In the shoe business he showed exceptional aptitude and sound business sense, so that he was on his way toward accumulating a fortune, when he decided to abandon business life and enter the ministry.

In the meantime, Grace congregation at Pittsburgh was organized, of which congregation young Dieffenbacher was a charter member. Much credit for the early prosperity of this new congregation is due to his faithfulness, interest, and financial support.

In preparation for the ministry, Mr. Dieffenbacher entered the Preparatory department of Franklin and Marshall College, but soon became ill and returned home. He then spent several years in private study and entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1871, graduating in 1873. He was licensed by Allegheny Classis in 1873,

and later in the same year was ordained by Clarion Classis and installed as pastor of the Kittanning, Pa., Charge. During his service here of twelve years a new church was built and dedicated.

In 1885 he accepted a Call to Christ Church, Altoona, Pa.. Here he was able to organize a new congregation, Trinity, from material in his own congregation.

The next Charge, which he served from 1891 until his death was the Shiloh Charge, at Danville, Pa.

He died January 23, 1893, at the age of fifty-seven. Funeral services were held on January 25 at Grace Church, Pittsburgh, in charge of Revs. J. H. Prugh, A. E. Truxal, R. C. Bowling and A. W. Schmidt. He was buried in the Allegheny Cemetery, Pittsburgh.

Mr. Dieffenbacher was married by Rev. G. B. Russell to Miss Mary Reifsnider of Lancaster, Pa. His widow, three sons and four daughters survived him.

References: Messenger; January 26, 1893

February 2, 1893

February 23, 1893

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. JOHN FREDERICK HENRY DIECHMANN, D. D.

J. F. H. Deichmann was born at Sellinger, Hanover, Germany, April 4, 1835. When he was ten years old, his parents brought him to America, the family finding a home in Galveston, Texas. Two years later they came North and evidently made their home in Ohio. One account says that he entered the ministry in 1859. If so, he must have been a pastor in another denomination for at least eight years, for it was not until 1867 that he was licensed and ordained

by Heidelberg Classis.

His first pastoral labor in the Reformed Church was in the Caroline, Ohio, Charge, where he served for five years. In 1872, he became pastor of the Galion, Ohio, Charge, where he remained until 1878. For a short while he served as pastor of St. Luke's Church in Louisville, Ky., but resigned after two years on account of some difficulty with the Consistory regarding the administration of the affairs of the congregation. He then took charge of Zion's Church in the same city for a pastorate of four years. In 1884 he came to Buffalo, N. Y., as pastor of Zion's Church. Here he served for a period of about nineteen years, until his death.

Mr. Dölchmann received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from the Mission House College, but the date is not recorded. He was a member of the Board of Home Missions of the Synod of the North-West, a Director of the German Publishing House, and a member of the Board of Trustees and of the Board of Visitors of the Mission House College and Seminary.

He died at his home in Buffalo of apoplexy on February 11, 1893, at the age of fifty-seven. Funeral services were held in his late home on February 15, in charge of Rev. M. Heinze. Further services were held at Zion's Church in Charge of Rev. Heinze. Rev. Jacob Dahlmann preached the funeral sermon. Other participating ministers were Revs. G. Dolch and August Becker. Burial was in Pine Hill Cemetery, Buffalo.

Dr. Dölchmann was married February 19, 1853, to Miss Frederica Tatzehorst. Survivors were his mother, his widow, and eight children.

References: Messenger; February 23, 1893

March 2, 1893

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. JEREMIAH INGOLD, D. D.

Mr. Ingold was a descendant of German settlers of the early part of the eighteenth century who made the tedious journey from Eastern Pennsylvania west to the mountains, and then south-west through Maryland, Virginia, and into the Carolinas. His ancestors were of good Reformed stock. His grand-father was a deacon of the Brick Church in Guilford County, North Carolina, during the Revolutionary War.

Jeremiah Ingold was born in Guilford County, N. C., September 25, 1816. He was baptized at the old Brick Church, and on October 21, 1832, was confirmed a member of that congregation by the pastor, Rev. J. H. Crawford.

On account of the death of his father while Jeremiah was yet a boy, he was able to attend school only at intervals. Part of his preliminary education was obtained in the parochial schools maintained by the congregations of the Guilford Charge of the Reformed Church. As soon as he was old enough he became a school teacher, being in charge of a private school in Lincoln County, N. C., for one year.

Under the encouragement and influence of his pastor, Rev. Mr. Crawford, he maintained during the unpromising years of his youth his earnest desire to become a Christian minister. By 1837 he was ready to enter Marshall College. He was graduated from this institution in 1841, then returned to North Carolina for a year of teaching. In 1842 he came back to Mercersburg to enter the Theological Seminary, from which he was graduated in 1844. He was licensed and ordained, April 14, 1844, by the Classis of North Carolina at its annual sessions, and as it so happened, meeting in his home church (the Brick Church in Guilford County).

His first ministerial labor was as pastor of a small congrega-

tion in Alexandria County (Friendship Charge), residing at Wilfong's Mill, N. C. After a little more than a year in this humble pastorate, he was called to the West Rowan Charge, with his residence at Luthersville, N. C.

After ten years of service here, he became pastor of the Lincolnton Charge in Catawba County, North Carolina. Upon assuming this pastorate which extended from 1855 to 1873, he bought a farm on the South Fork where he resided until 1872, when he moved to Hickory, N. C. He also established at his residence a select school which he conducted as a private enterprise until 1877. This school was of considerable importance, afterwards under the name of Claremont College. When Mr. Ingold moved to Hickory, the school was moved also, and continued under Mr. Ingold's direction until 1877. After his resignation of the Lincolnton Charge in 1873, he continued to serve Corinth Church in Hickory, which he had organized a year before. He was pastor of Corinth Church until his retirement in 1890. For many years Claremont College was under the control of Corinth Church, and then for a short period was under the supervision of the Classis of North Carolina. Mr. Ingold's successor in the Corinth Church was Rev. Dr. J. L. Murphy, a well-known minister of the Reformed Church, who, like Mr. Ingold, chose to give his whole pastoral life to the service of the Church in North Carolina. Mr. Ingold's service to the Reformed Church in North Carolina continued for almost half a century, as a pastor and an educator. He gave much energy to the cause of education, as an elementary school teacher and especially in his connection with Claremont College. He was also much interested in Catawba College and a member of its Board of Trustees.

In 1884 Mr. Ingold received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Franklin and Marshall College. His death occurred

at Hickory on February 12, 1893, at the age of seventy-six.

The funeral services on February 14 were in charge of Rev. J. L. Murphy, his successor at Corinth Church. Rev. Dr. J. C. Clapp preached the funeral sermon. He was buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Hickory.

Mr. Ingold was married, December 14, 1843, to Miss Margaret Ramsaur, member of a well-known North Carolina family, who have been members of the Reformed Church for generations. Mrs. Ingold died June 11, 1891. Mr. Ingold was survived by four children.

References: Messenger; February 16, 1893

March 16, 1893

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. AUGUST TOENSMEIER

August Toensmeier was a native of Lippe Detmold, Germany, where he was born January 3, 1824.

Nothing is known of his early education or when he came to America. He was a student at the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg from which he was graduated in 1852. He was licensed and ordained by Miami Classis in 1852, when he took charge of the Second Reformed Church at Dayton, Ohio, serving as its pastor for two years until September, 1854.

He was then called to become pastor of the Reformed Church at Louisville, Ky., where he served until 1859. In October of that year he became pastor of the Beardstown, Ill., Charge, but after October, 1861, his residence was at Evansville, Ind., where he also supplied a congregation in connection with his work in the Beardstown Charge. In 1862 he resigned to accept a Call to the Reformed Church at Toledo, Ohio, where his pastorate continued for fourteen

years (until 1876). His next pastorate at Ironton, Ohio, extended from 1876 to 1890. He then returned to Toledo in 1890, but whether to live in retirement or for a second pastorate, we do not know.

He died at his home in Toledo, March 14, 1893, at the age of sixty-nine. The funeral services took place on March 17, with interment at Toledo.

His wife died in April, 1882; he was survived by four children. One son, Rev. T. A. Toensmeier, was a minister of the Reformed denomination until his dismissal to the Presbyterian Church in 1894.

References: Messenger; March 30, 1893

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. GEORGE B. SMITH *

July 3, 1842 (b.s. minutes)

George B. Smith was born in Blair County, Pa., about 1860. He studied privately in Bucks County, Pa., and was licensed by Tohickon Classis in May, 1884. In 1886 he was ordained and installed as pastor of the Tannersville, Pa., Charge, which he served until his death, March 26, 1893. He was buried at Tannersville.

Mr. Smith was twice married. His second wife survived him.

References: Messenger; March 30, 1893

Almanac, 1894

* This George B. Smith is not to be identified with the Rev. George B. Smith who was born at Maxatawny, Pa., and ordained in 1892.

REV. CHARLES W. SCHULTZ

C. W. Schultz was born in Berks County, Pa., in 1804. Nothing is known concerning him until he was ordained in 1830 as missionary to the region in and around Reading, Pa. He continued in this work without a settled pastorate until 1842. He then became pastor of the Oley, Pa., Charge, which he served until 1844. In that year he took charge of the Baumstown, Pa., Charge and served it for two years (until 1846). From 1846 until 1856 he was without a regular Charge, but probably engaged in missionary work. In 1857 he was sent to Egg Harbor, N. J., to serve a mission congregation at that place. He retired from the active ministry in 1858, residing thereafter until his death with his children at Camden, N. J. For many years he was agent for the Reformed Church Messenger.

Mr. Schultz died April 14, 1893, and was buried at Camden.

References: Messenger; April 20, 1893

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. DAVID KEMMERER (KAEMMERER) D. D.

David Kemmerer, the son of David and Elizabeth (Dech) Kemmerer, was born near Easton, Pa., September 15, 1802. His great-grandfather came to America from Zweibrucken, Germany, in 1730.

He received his preliminary education in the schools of his neighborhood, and then was prepared in theology by Rev. Dr. Becker. He was licensed and ordained in 1827 by the Synod of the United States.

In 1827 Mr. Kemmerer became pastor of a German Evangelical congregation at Pittsburgh, Pa.; a congregation which was not, however, at the time, in organic connection with the Reformed Church. Here he served for fourteen years. In 1841 he moved to Massillon, Ohio, to become pastor of the Brookfield Charge. In 1844, he began to preach at Wooster, Ohio, also. Here he organized a congregation

and served it regularly in connection with his work in the Brookfield Charge. In 1853 he moved to Wooster and, until his death, was pastor of the congregation there, together serving other congregations which he had in the meantime organized in that vicinity.

Mr. Kemmerer spent his pastoral life in organizing congregations and building churches. In the State of Ohio, he organized congregations in no less than five different counties, which by the time of his death had become the nuclei of five pastoral Charges.

Dr. Kemmerer died at Wooster, May 6, 1893, at the age of ninety. At the time of his death he was the oldest minister in years in the Reformed Church.

Funeral services were held at Wooster on May 9, in charge of Revs. F. Strassner and J. Dahlmann. Six ministerial brethren served as pall-bearers. Interment was at Wooster.

Mr. Kemmerer was married November 23, 1827, to Miss Catharine Eliem, daughter of Rev. Christian Eliem. Mrs. Kemmerer died March 16, 1889. Mr. Kemmerer was survived by three children.

References: Messenger; May 11, 1893

May 25, 1893

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. MARTIN MUELLER

The only information we have concerning Rev. Martin Mueller is that he died at Oberlin, Ohio, May 6, 1893, and was buried May 9 at Findlay, Ohio. Revs. J. I. Swander and A. S. Zerbe were in charge of the funeral services.

Reference: Messenger; May 25, 1893

REV. JOHN C. GLANTZ

John C. Glantz was born at Chur - Hessen, Germany, about 1830. He came to America in young manhood, landing at Baltimore, Md., where he lived for eight years. Then he settled in Missouri, where he remained for two years. Later, he made his home for many years in Illinois, part of the time in Chicago.

Nothing is known of his education, his preparation for the ministry, or of his licensure and ordination.

After serving several Charges in the West, he became pastor of the Deep Creek Charge, Hegins, Pa., in 1884. Five years later he accepted a Call to the Nanticoke, Pa., Charge, which he served until his death, June 5, 1893, at the age of sixty-three.

Revs. Levan, Meckel and Siegel were in charge of the funeral services on June 8. He was buried in the Hanover Cemetery at Nanticoke.

Mr. Glantz was twice married. His second wife and one daughter survived him.

References: Messenger; June 15, 1893

June 29, 1893

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. JOHN FREDERICK BUSCHE, D. D.

John F. Busche was born August 5, 1817, at Meinsdorf, Province of Brandenburg, Prussia. At the age of eighteen he entered the University of Berlin, Germany. We do not know the extent of his preparatory education, but he evidently spent several years in university study, for six years later, at the age of twenty-four, he was regarded as capable of doing pastoral work.

His first assignment was the performance of missionary labor in

London, England. After one year he was sent to Liverpool as missionary to the Germans of that city. In 1844 he came to New York City where he did missionary work for two years.

In 1846 he was ordained by Philadelphia Classis and became in the same year pastor of the Forsythe Street Church in New York City, which at that time, however, was independent of any Synodical connection. In 1853 he founded and organized the First Reformed German Church on Suffolk Street in New York City. He was its first pastor and served it for forty-seven years, until just one week before his death. He was commissioned by the Synod of the United States to organize the New York Classis, which duty he completed in October, 1846.

Dr. Busche died in New York, July 10, 1893, at the age of seventy-five. At the funeral services in the Suffolk St. Church on July 13, Rev. J. Schnatz was in charge. Rev. Bank preached in German, and Rev. Pope in English. Rev. Walenta officiated at the grave. He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn.

Dr. Busche was married in February, 1850, to Miss Anne Kerr. Mrs. Busche died in August, 1884. Two sons and three daughters survived him.

References: Messenger; July 27, 1893

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. JOHN V. LERCH

J. V. Lerch was born in Northumberland County, Pa., May 10, 1843. At the age of nineteen he entered the army (1862) and served for three years until the end of the Civil War. Two years later at the age of twenty-four, he entered Heidelberg College, from which he was graduated in 1871. He then spent two years in the Heidelberg Theologi-

cal Seminary at Tiffin, graduating in 1873. In 1874 he was ordained and installed as pastor of the Columbiana, Ohio, Charge. After a service of two years there, he accepted a Call to the Shenandoah Charge at Ashland, Ohio. Four years later (1880), he became pastor of the Canal Fulton, Ohio, Charge, which he served for five years. In February, 1885, he returned to Columbiana for a second pastorate, which, however, continued for only a little more than a year. In 1886 he was appointed Chaplain of the National Military Home for Disabled Veterans, a post in which he continued until his death, July 14, 1893, at the age of fifty.

At the funeral services on July 16, Dr. W. A. Hale preached the sermon. Also, Revs. M. Loucks and H. M. Herman participated in the services. He was survived by his widow, one son and one daughter.

References: Messenger; July 27, 1893

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. DAVID OTTO SHOEMAKER

D. O. Shoemaker, the son of Elder Philip J. Shoemaker and his wife, Christena, was born at Friends Cove, Pa., March 30, 1833. Elder and Mrs. Shoemaker, staunch members of the Reformed Church, gave three of their sons to the ministry of the Reformed Church: Revs. Joseph G., Elias D., and David O. David was the fourth in a family of fourteen children.

He was baptized in infancy, and confirmed at the age of fourteen by Rev. Matthew Irvin, a pioneer minister and missionary in the Bedford, Pa., area. He spent his early years on the farm, attending the schools of his community and then entered the Rimersburg Academy,

situated only two miles from his home. He walked back and forth

* Elias D. was not a son of Philip Shoemaker. He was a son of Henry Shoemaker, the brother of Philip. [This information provided by the family to E+R Historical Society, March 12, 1968]
Hubert B. Austlett, Executive Secretary of

every day while attending this school.

In 1856 he entered Franklin and Marshall College, where he spent one year. From 1857 to 1859 he taught school. In 1859 he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1860. In August of that same year he was licensed by Clarion Claasis, and on September 9, 1860, he was ordained by a committee of Clarion Classis, consisting of his brother, Rev. Joseph G. Shoemaker, and Rev. Abner Dale. His first pastoral labor was in the Fairview Charge at Chicora, Pa., where he served from September, 1860, to September, 1865.

In 1865 he became pastor of the St. Petersburg, Pa., Charge, consisting at the time of two congregations. During his service in this Charge he organized three new congregations: Salem at Lamartine, St. John's at Emlenton and St. Mark's at Monroeville. A new church building was erected and dedicated for each congregation.

The St. Petersburg Charge was divided about 1872 or 1873, when St. Paul's Church near Knox, Pa., Salem at Lamartine, and St. Mark's at Monroeville were detached to form the Beaver Charge, which Mr. Shoemaker served until 1874.

In December, 1874, he resigned the Beaver Charge to accept a call to the Shamokin, Pa., Charge, of which he was pastor for nearly four years. In July, 1878, he resigned the Charge, but continued to reside at Shamokin and to supply the congregation for almost a year longer.

Mr. Shoemaker's work at Shamokin was outstanding. This mining community had suffered severely from the 1873 panic. Many of the members of the church had been out of work for a long time. Affairs in the congregation were in a distressing condition. The people were discouraged and as a congregation, disorganized. Four years of hard pastoral labor by Mr. Shoemaker resulted in a marked improve-

ment in the affairs of the church, financially and spiritually. Due largely to his efforts, St. John's congregation at Shamokin soon became one of the largest and most prosperous in the whole Reformed Church.

In the spring of 1879 he became pastor of the Augusta Charge, near Sunbury, Pa.; a rural Charge consisting of six congregations. Here he maintained his reputation as a church builder. During his pastorate, St. Elias Church, Hallowing Run (now Fisher's Ferry) was built and dedicated.

After a little more than three years in the Augusta Charge, Mr. Shoemaker, in the summer of 1882, moved to the Nittany Valley Charge at Jacksonville, Pa. During the nine years of his service here (1882 - 1891), each congregation in the Charge repaired and re-dedicated its church building.

In June of 1891, Mr. Shoemaker became pastor of the Stoyestown, Pa., Charge, but his service here was attended with much physical suffering from a disease of the heart which developed soon after he came into this his last pastoral location. He was stricken with partial paralysis in February, 1893, but continued preaching and attending to his pastoral duties as well as he was able until his death. Altogether he spent thirty-three years in the ministry. The record that he left surely proved that he was capable and faithful to his Calling.

Mr. Shoemaker died at his residence in Stoyestown, August 25, 1893, at the age of sixty. Funeral services were held from the church at Stoyestown on August 28, in charge of Revs. A. J. Heller, Hiram King, William Rupp and A. A. Long. On the next day further services were held in the church at Aaronsburg. Rev. W. A. Haas preached the sermon. Revs. Addams, Noll, Robb and Wolf participated in the services. He was buried at Aaronsburg.

Soon after his ordination Mr. Shoemaker was married to Miss Esther Diehl of Friends Cove. She died less than a year after the marriage.

On March 23, 1863, Mr. Shoemaker was married a second time to Miss Elizabeth Jordan of Aaronsburg. His second wife and five children survived him.

References: Messenger; August 31, 1893

September 14, 1893

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1894

REV. CHARLES KUSS

Mr. Kuss was born at Hamburg, Germany, October 23, 1816. He prepared for the ministry at the University of Berlin and then went to Russia as a missionary, where he spent some years. He came to America in 1848 and immediately made contact with the Reformed Church through Miami Classis, by which judicatory he was licensed that same year. He was ordained early in the year 1849 and sent by the same Classis to take charge of the First (German) Reformed Church at Louisville, Kentucky. In this pastoral relation he labored for five years and then moved to Fort Wayne, Ind., during the year 1854; whether as a pastor or merely to reside there until another pastoral opportunity should present itself, we do not know. If he was pastor of a church at Fort Wayne, his service was brief, for in April, 1855, he was commissioned as pastor of the mission congregation at Sandusky, Ohio. His pastorate at Sandusky extended from 1855 to 1863. During that period he also organized a congregation in the vicinity of Monroeville, Ohio.

For some reason not given he was suspended from the activities

of the Christian ministry, but soon afterwards was re-instated in April, 1857 by Indiana Classis.

In 1863 he accepted a Call to become pastor of Salem Reformed Church at Buffalo, N. Y., which congregation he served until his retirement in 1875. He then moved to Rochester, N. Y., where he spent the rest of his life quietly and not in good health. He was physically in a rather critical condition from May, 1893.

Mr. Kuss died at his home in Rochester, September 11, 1893, at the age of seventy-six. The funeral services were in charge of Revs. Liebenpfeiffer and Heinze. Interment was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Rochester.

Mr. Kuss was married, February 23, 1849, to Miss Barbara Harr. His widow and six daughters survived him.

References: Messenger; October 5, 1893

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

REV. SIMON KUHTZ GROSS

S. K. Gross, the son of Daniel Gross and his wife, Catharine (Kuhntz) Gross, was born in North White^{Wolf}field Township, Lehigh County, Pa., December 9, 1829, the youngest of a family of eleven children. He was baptized in infancy by Rev. Christopher Gobrecht and confirmed in his sixteenth year by Rev. J. S. Dubbs.

His boyhood and youth were spent on the farm, but it soon became evident that he was not interested in farming. His mind was intent on reading and study, and early in life he expressed a desire to enter the Christian ministry. His father, who was well-to-do, was entirely sympathetic toward his son's ambition, gave him every encouragement and offered to pay the expenses of his preparatory education.

However, the youth by diligent study had on his own initiative

acquired sufficient education to enable him to take charge of an elementary school, and thus partially prepared himself for his life's work, financially and intellectually, by spending several years as a teacher.

His formal preparation for the ministry began when he entered the High School of Rev. C. R. Kessler at Allentown, where he studied Latin and Greek and also made some progress in the study of theology. After four years in this school, he finished his theological preparation under the supervision of Rev. J. S. Dubbs. After one year with Dr. Dubbs, he was licensed by East Pennsylvania Classis in 1854. He was ordained by a committee of the same Classis in 1855 and installed pastor of the Salisbury congregation in Lehigh County. At the same time he served ^{Willsport} Zion congregation in Bucks County. The committee on ordination consisted of Revs. J. G. Dubbs, Charles Herman and John Kessler. Inasmuch as the Zion congregation was in the territory of Goshenhoppen Classis, Mr. Gross transferred his classical membership to that Classis.

Less than four years afterwards, Mr. Gross resigned the Salisbury congregation to accept the ^{Albion, Pa.} pastorate of the Schlichters (Jerusalem) and Ridge Valley congregations in Bucks County, retaining, however, the Zion congregation which he had been ~~serving~~ ^{serving} in connection with the Salisbury Charge. He established his residence in the vicinity of the Schlichters church.

He served these three congregations for eleven years, and then in 1870, Zion congregation was detached and he continued to be pastor of the Schlichters and Ridge Valley congregations, under the name "Ridge Valley Charge" until 1890, when at his request he was relieved of the pastoral care of the Ridge Valley congregation, but continued to serve the Schlichters Church to the end of his life.

He was pastor of the Schlichters Church for more than thirty-five years.

Mr. Gross was very generous in giving his time to serve temporarily other congregations in need of his services. In this way, he served without pay the Dublin congregation for two years during the illness of the pastor, Rev. W. R. Yearick. He was also supply-pastor of Keller's congregation for more than a year.

In September, 1893, Mr. Gross went to Chicago to attend the World's Fair. He was entertained in that city at the Reformed Tabernacle, a small hotel conducted for the convenience of members of the Reformed Church while they were in Chicago. On September 20, he was injured by stepping from a street-car while it was in motion. In an effort to save his life, his leg was amputated above the ankle. However, death came September 24, 1893, at the Reformed Tabernacle in Chicago. He was sixty-three years old.

At the funeral services at Schlichters Church, October 3, Rev. Jacob Kehm preached in German from the text: Prophecy of Job, Chapter 4, Verses 3 and 4. Rev. F. Mohr followed with a sermon in English. Also, funeral addresses were delivered by Revs. D. Rothrock and C. Z. Weiser. Rev. J. G. Dengler had charge of the services at the home. He was buried at Schlichters Church Cemetery.

Mr. Gross was married August 4, 1857, to Miss Mary-Ann Wolf, of Springfield Township, Bucks County. She died November 13, 1864, and then on April 5, 1866, he was married a second time to Miss Maria Hartzell of Tylersport, Pa. His second wife and two children survived him. One daughter was married to Rev. D. H. Reiter, a minister of the *Lutheran* Church, *at Zion Hill, Pa.*

References: Messenger; September 23, 1893

October 19, 1893

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

REV. J. H. BUCER *

J. H. Bucer was born in Frederick County, Maryland, December 6, 1826. His formal education was limited to the common schools of the day, but he was evidently so concerned about preparing himself to reach that level in education that he would be sure of his ability of carrying on a capable ministry, that laboriously and with great effort, acquired privately, entirely on his own initiative, the knowledge necessary for a series of successful pastorates for almost half a century.

When he went West, we do not know. However, at the age of twenty-three he presented himself for examination before Miami Classis, by whom he was granted licensure at its annual meeting in May, 1850.

As a licentiate he served the Sydney, Ohio, Charge for two ye-ars, and then was ordained and installed as its regular pastor. He was here for a year after his ordination, then became pastor of the Kinnickinnick Charge, consisting of several congregations in the vicinity of Chillicothe, Ohio, where he labored until July, 1859.

Next, he went as a missionary to Oskaloosa, Iowa, as pastor of a small congregation lately organized, serving here amid great difficulties and discouragements until October, 1861. He then became pastor of the Columbus Junction Charge at Columbus City, Iowa. This pastorate extended for a period of exactly six years, when in October 1867, he took charge of the Clifton, Iowa, congregation which he organized. Here, in the first year of his pastorate, a new church was built and dedicated.

From October 1867, to January 1, 1867, he served three pastorates in Iowa: Clifton, Lone Tree, and Coneville, all mission Charges.

On January 1, 1867, he began work in the Fort Seneca Charge, residing at Tiffin, Ohio. However, he soon returned (November, 1869)

to the missionary territory of Iowa as pastor of the Leighton, Iowa, Charge.

In the spring of 1893, on account of approaching old age and ill health, he resigned his work at Leighton and retired from the active ministry to make his home with a married daughter at Coneville.

Mr. Bucer died at the residence of his daughter in Coneville, December 18, 1893, at the age of sixty-seven. He was buried at Coneville.

On September 23, 1851, Mr. Bucer was married to Margaret D. Lennox, who predeceased him by several years. He was survived by seven children.

* Note: Several references to him spell the name as "Buser". The correct spelling is "Bucer".

References: Messenger; January 11, 1894

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

1894

REV NICHOLAS WIERS

Mr. Wiers was born at Emden, Hanover, Germany, July 17, 1840. As a very young man he spent several years as a seaman; also engaged in a variety of other occupations. His early life was filled with unusual adventures, so that until he was thirty he may be said to have had a rather checkered career.

He came to America, landing in New York in 1871, but must have gone West almost immediately. In 1873 he was graduated from the Mission House Seminary, and was licensed and ordained in the same year.

His pastorates, of which we know nothing except the dates and locations, were as follows: Evansville, Ind., for two and a half years (1873 - 1875); New Bavaria, Ohio, six years (1875 - 1881);

Fourth Church, Cleveland, Ohio, seven years (1881 - 1888); and at Milltown, N. J., about four years (1888 - 1892). He resigned and retired from the active ministry in 1892, but continued to reside at Milltown until his death, January 7, 1894, at the age of fifty-three. He was buried in Elmwood Cemetery near New Brunswick, N. J.

Mr. Wiers was married August 27, 1873, to Miss Agnes Feeken. His widow and one daughter survived him.

Reference: Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

REV. JULIUS LANGE

Julius Lange, the son of a well-to-do farmer, was born at Schoeller, Rhenish Prussia, February 18, 1841. He was educated in the common schools of his home community and at the State Seminary for Teachers at Dusseldorf. Here he made for himself a brilliant record for scholarship. So highly was he thought of by the teachers and administrators of the Seminary that upon his graduation at the age of twenty, he was immediately appointed a teacher in the institution in which he had lately been a student.

Mr. Lange taught in the Seminary at Dusseldorf for fourteen years, attaining the rank "Oberlehrer", the highest teaching position in the school.

He came to America in 1876 and immediately connected himself with the Mission House (College and Seminary) at Franklin, Wisc., as student and teacher. Here he spent two years, graduating from the Seminary in 1878. In the same year he was licensed and ordained.

His first pastoral labor was in Clackamas County, Oregon. His task was to visit the scattered Swiss immigrants who inhabited a wide territory in that mountainous region, to bring them together for worship and to organize them into a congregation. In February,

1879, Mr. Lange was able to organize his flocks into a regular pastoral Charge (the Meridian, Oregon, Charge) of which he was the first pastor and which he served for the remainder of his life.

Mr. Lange has been called by Dr. R. C. Schiedt "The Columbanus of the Church in the West", and well he deserved the title. His work was laborious in the extreme, consisting for the most part of traveling on foot over the hills and through the valleys, seeking out and claiming for the Church the lonely settlers of what was practically virgin territory. He labored so successfully that he was able to report to the Board of Home Missions in October, 1892, that the congregation was ready to go to self-support.

Due probably to his strenuous life and to the unpleasant climate of the region in which he lived, he early developed a disease which affected the lungs. In May, 1882, he was granted leave of absence to go back to Germany in the hope that the journey would improve his health. He spent that summer and fall at his native place, and was so much better that he expected to return to his field before the end of the year. However, on the advice of his physician, he decided to stay in Germany until the winter was past. He resumed his work in Oregon in May, 1883, but not with completely restored health.

Finally in the summer of 1893, his condition had become so alarming that he made a second trip to Europe. What time of life was left to him, he spent at his birth-place, Schoeller, where he died of consumption January 11, 1894, at the age of forty-two.

Mr. Lange took a prominent part in the organization of the Portland-Oregon Classis. He was the nephew of Dr. J. P. Lange, the distinguished Bible commentator. He was never married.

References: Messenger; February 22, 1894

March 1, 1894; March 23, 1894

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

REV. ISRAEL S. WEISZ, D. D.

I. S. Weisz, son of Rev. George Weisz, one of the pioneer ministers of the Reformed Church in Ohio, was born at Lancaster, Ohio, November 27, 1821, while his father was pastor of the Reformed Church at that place. He was for several years a student in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1843. He was licensed by Lancaster (Ohio) Classis and ordained at Dayton in the same year and by the same Classis.

At this point the record of his ministerial career is not clear. One account says that he was pastor of the Clear Spring, Md., Charge from 1843 to 1846, and that in 1848, he became supply-pastor of the congregation at Newville, Pa.

But this cannot be true, for the following reasons: 1. Mr. Weisz was deposed from the ministry by Lancaster (Ohio) Classis in May, 1844, for a reason not disclosed. He appealed to the Ohio Synod, who at its sessions in September, 1844, confirmed the action of the Lancaster Classis and deposed him anew. In May, 1845, Lancaster Classis re-instated him, but the Ohio Synod was evidently not satisfied and referred the case to the Maryland Classis in November, 1845. At its annual sessions in May, 1846, Maryland Classis re-instated him on probation.

2. Rev. Benjamin T. Neal was pastor of the Clear Spring, Md., Charge from 1841 to 1845, so Weisz' connection with the Charge could not have begun until after Neal left in 1845.

I am of the opinion that after Neal's resignation in 1845, Rev. Weisz, still under a cloud as regards his ministerial status, came to Clear Spring as temporary supply, contingent upon the action of the Synod of Ohio. Upon the reference of the Synod to Maryland Classis, the Classis, in view of the previous action of re-instate-ment on the part of the Lancaster (Ohio) Classis, allowed him to

officiate in the Clear Spring Charge as supply, however, under probation. This arrangement continued until 1847, when Mr. Weisz became supply-pastor of the Reformed church at Newville, Pa., for two years.

In the Minutes of Maryland Classis there is no record of his having been installed as pastor of the Clear Spring Charge, nor of his having been received by the Classis, nor of being dismissed by it to another Classis. He was never a member of Maryland Classis nor the installed pastor of any Charge within its bounds; neither is there any record of the end of the probationary period.

Toward the end of 1848, it was reported that he was to become pastor of a Lutheran and Reformed congregation at Basil, Ohio. This report, likewise, is incorrect, for Mr. Weisz left Newville in June, 1849, to become pastor of the Lithopolis, Ohio, Charge, where he served for ten years (1849 - 1859).

In 1859 he moved to Jacksonville, Pa., to take charge of the Jacksonville Union Seminary and to be pastor of the Nittany Valley Charge. This arrangement continued until 1861, when he resigned to become pastor of the Mifflinburg, Pa., Charge, which he served for four years (1861 - 1865). In November, 1865, he accepted a call to the Williamsport, Pa., Charge, which he served for two years. In 1867 he became pastor of the Mt. Bethel Charge at Stone Church, Northampton County, Pa. In 1874 he came to the Paradise Charge in York County, Pa., residing in York. Here he served for twenty years, until his death.

Mr. Weisz died at his home in York, January 15, 1894, after an illness of several months. Mr. Weisz's ministry, therefore, covered more than half a century, and at the time of his death he was one of the oldest ministers in the Reformed Church.

The funeral services were held in Heidelberg Church, York, on

January 18, in charge of the pastor, Rev. H. A. Bomberger. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Bomberger and by Dr. Aaron Wanner, who had been a class-mate of Rev. Weisz at the Seminary at Mercersburg. He was buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, York.

Mr. Weisz was married in 1844 to Miss Elizabeth Sell Foltz of Mercersburg. She died while he was pastor of the Mt. Bethel Charge. Several years later he was married a second time to Miss Emma L. Troxel of Stone Church, Pa. He was survived by his second wife and seven children.

Mr. Weisz received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Ursinus College in 1876. He was for many years a member of the Board of Visitors of the Ursinus School of Theology. For ten years he served as Stated Clerk of Zion's Classis.

References: Messenger; January 25, 1894

February 8, 1894

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

History of Maryland Classis

REV. WILLIAM AUGUSTUS HELFFRICH (HELFFERICH), D. D.

W. A. Helffrich is a member of a family unique in the history of the ministry of the Reformed Church. His was a "family of ministers", a term which may be applied to other family names, prominent in the annals of the Church, such as Helffenstein, Herman, Dechant, Apple, Kieffer, ^{Wick, Kieffer} and others. Of the Helffrichs there are five generations from John Henry, who came to America in 1771, to Reginald Humphrey, who is now serving in a responsible position in the Church. The Helffrich family is unique, also, in that from the first generation to the fifth, all have served the same pastoral Charge continuously during a period of approximately one hundred

and eighty years.

William A. Helffrich was born, August 27, 1827, at the home of his father at Weissenberg, Pa. He was the son of Rev. (Father) John Helffrich and grand-son of Rev. John Henry Helffrich, who came to America in 1771. His mother was Salome (Sallie) Schantz, reputed to be "the most beautiful maiden in all the land".

William's earliest education was obtained in a school which had been established by his father in a one-room building, but which was closed after a short time on account of the incompetence and laziness of the teacher; again, for a short time in a school supported by the ^{farmers} famers in the district; and at a parochial school connected with Ziegel's Church and taught by Mr. Allenborn, the church organist. Also, at the age of eight or nine, William attended the "First Academy", established by his father in his own home, where he studied Latin at the age of eight, and Greek at the age of nine. He also attended for a time a private academy in the village of Bowers, near Topton.

It was the intention of Rev. John Helffrich to send his son to the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, but was led to change his mind after the occurrence of an unfortunate incident at the meeting of the Synod. John, although not a delegate that year, had taken his son to the synodical meeting especially to meet the professors of the Seminary. However, he (John) was ignored by the Synod, was not recognized by the President or invited to a seat as an advisory member. Smarting under this rebuff, John left the Synod the next morning, and with the decision that he, himself, would teach his son theology.

This decision led to the establishment of the "Second Academy", which was conducted in John's home, a building which had been erected to serve both as a dwelling house and as a school. Here, under

the instruction of competent teachers, brought from Europe, young William received an education, comparable to ~~that~~ offered by the best academies and colleges of the day. Much of his theological learning he obtained from his father. Hence, although privately prepared, when he presented himself for examination before the Classis of East Pennsylvania, he was as well or better educated than those other candidates who had received their training in Marshall College and the Seminary at Mercersburg.

It seem^d that William was not naturally inclined to enter the ministry. He loved the natural sciences and, indeed, expressed a preference for an agricultural rather than a ministerial career. But Father John chose the occupation for each of his sons. He decided that William was to be a minister, and William acquiesced although he said at the time that he had "never had an internal Call to the sacred office".

He was examined by a committee of East Pennsylvania Classis at its annual meeting in the spring of 1845, in the Lehigh Church, near Alburtis. In spite of his fears that on account of his not having been educated in a regular Theological seminary, he would not make a good showing, he passed the examination satisfactorily and was duly licensed.

He was ordained soon afterwards and spent the next two years supplying congregations in and around Reading, Ephrata, Mahanoy City and Tamaqua. For about two years before his father's death in 1852 he served as his father's assistant. After his father's death, he was nominated and elected to the pastorate of the Charge (called the "Long Swamp" Charge) which his father and his grandfather had served since 1771. In 1852 this Charge consisted of the following congregations: Ziegel's, Longswamp, Heidelberg, Lynn, Lowhill,

and Weissenberg. Later, other congregations were added: Lynnville, Mertztown (after 1859), Lehigh and Friedens (Slatington). In 1871 he resigned all the congregations which had been added to the original Charge, except Lehigh. He continued to serve seven congregations, therefore, until his retirement.. From 1852 until the time of his retirement in 1885 he was pastor of the same Charge, residing after his marriage in 1853 in Fogelsville, Pa.

In November of 1885 he retired from the active ministry on account of the condition of his health. His son, Nevin Helffrich, became his successor. It was his pleasure, during the years of his retirement, to accompany Nevin to Sunday services occasionally in the congregations of the Charge which he had served for so many years.

The first winter after his resignation was spent in Florida, where he greatly enjoyed the freedom from care and especially the warm sunshine of that tropical climate. He came home after a protracted stay, greatly refreshed and much improved in health.

During his years of retirement at Fogelsville, Dr. Helffrich turned his attention seriously to literary labor. The best-known of his literary productions are "A Commentary on the Apocalypse, published in part in the Reformed Quarterly Review by Rev. W. A. Reily; Outline of Funeral Sermons (First Volume published in 1879, second Volume published a few years later); Book of Sermons on the Epistle Lessons of the Church Year, published in 1883; the manuscript of an historical pamphlet, published in 1891.

His greatest literary work, "Das Lebensbild", was found in German manuscript by his sons, Nevin and William U. after his death, and published by them in 1906.

Note: Das Lebensbild is about to be translated and published in English by the Pennsylvania German Society.

Dr. Helffrich died at his home in Fogelsville of Bright's Disease on Saturday, March 17, 1894, at the age of sixty-six.

At the funeral services at the home, Rev. S. G. Wagner had charge. At further services in Ziegel's Church, Dr. Eli Keller preached a German sermon on the text: Gospel of John, Chapter 5, Verse 35. Dr. Benjamin Bausman preached an English sermon on the text: Prophecy of Malachi, Chapter 2, Verses 6 and 7. Dr. Helffrich was buried in the new cemetery at Ziegel's Church.

In 1885, Dr. Helffrich arranged for the removal of the bodies of his grand-parents, Rev. and Mrs. John Henry Helffrich, and of his father, John Helffrich, from the private cemetery of the Sassamanhausen family to the same burial lot in Ziegel's Cemetery on which he was afterwards interred. Rev. Nevin Helffrich is also buried in Ziegel's Cemetery, but not on the same lot.

Dr. Helffrich was married, August 1, 1852, to Miss Amanda H. Fogel, daughter of Solomon Fogel of Fogelsville. He was survived by his widow and four sons: Dr. John A., Dr. Calvin A., both physicians, Rev. Nevin W. A., his successor in the Ziegel's Charge, and by Rev. William U., at the time of his father's death a student in the Ursinus School of Theology, and later pastor of Christ Reformed Church, Bath, Pa.

Dr. Helffrich received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Heidelberg College. The record of his pastoral labors is as follows: Baptisms, 4053; Confirmations, 2309; Weddings, 1000; Funerals, 1542. During his pastorate, twenty-one young men entered the ministry from his Charge.

Note: For a fuller account of the life and labors of Rev. William A. Helffrich the reader is referred to "In the Footsteps of the Fathers," a Short History of Five Generations of Helffrich Ministers in the Service of the Reformed Church in the New World"; prepared

by the two grandsons of Rev. William A. Helffrich, Donald L., and Rev. Reginald Humphrey Helffrich, for the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Rev. John Henry Helffrich in 1739; and to the article "The Life and Work of William Augustus Helffrich," by Dr. George W. Richards, and published in the Seminary Bulletin, July, 1954, from which most of the material for this sketch has been taken.

References: Messenger; March 29, 1894

In the Footsteps of the Fathers, by Donald and
R. H. Helffrich, 1939

Life and Work of William Augustus Helffrich, by
Dr. George W. Richards, (Seminary Bulletin,
July) 1954

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

REV. JOHN C. HENSEL (HENSELL)

John C. Hensel, like Rev. John Brown, whose successor he was, was a true Virginian. His whole life and his entire ministerial service were given to the Reformed Church in his native State.

He was born at Shepherdstown, Va., March 29, 1809, of good Reformed stock, his parents being devoted members of Christ Church in the town where he was born. His father was an elder in the congregation at Shepherdstown and represented his Charge frequently at meetings of Classis and Synod.

Young Hensel was a boy at the time that Dr. Mayer was pastor at Shepherdstown, a circumstance which doubtless had a great deal to do with his desire to enter the Christian ministry. He entered the High School at York in 1832, and graduated from the Theological Seminary at York in 1835, thus coming again under the edifying influence of Dr. Mayer.

He was licensed by Maryland Classis, May 7, 1835 (the statement that he was licensed by Synod is incorrect). He was ordained on

the same day by the same Classis and immediately began his pastoral duties in the St. John's and St. Peter's congregations in Augusta County, Va., with his residence at Greenville, succeeding Rev. John Brown as pastor of those congregations. He also at the same time served as supply-pastor of the congregations at Newport and Mint Spring. In 1839 when he was married, he moved to Middlebrook, Va., continuing, however, to serve the same Charge.

After serving in this laborious field for twenty-two and a half years, he became pastor in 1857 of the Mt. Crawford, Va., Charge, in Rockingham County, a more important and less exhausting pastorate, succeeding Rev. Daniel Feete. Here he served, again, for twenty-two and a half years. He retired in 1880.

Mr. Hensel died at the home of his grand-daughter, Mrs. Rodgers, in Mt. Crawford, March 29, 1894, on his eighty-fifth birthday. At the time of his death, he had been a minister of the Reformed Church for fifty-nine years, and was the oldest member of Virginia Classis.

Funeral services were held in the church at Mt. Crawford on March 31. Rev. C. B. Heller preached the sermon and Rev. W. A. Korn assisted in the services.

In 1839 Mr. Hensel was married to Miss Annie Powell, daughter of Thomas Powell of Middletown, Md. Of this marriage one daughter was born. Both his wife and his daughter predeceased him.

References: Messenger; April 5, 1894

April 26, 1894

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

History of Maryland Classis

REV. JOSEPH SEAMAN LOOSE

J. S. Loose did not serve for many years as a pastor, yet his record as an educator has earned for him an honorable place among the ministers of the Reformed Church.

He was born at Hamburg, Berks County, Pa., March 17, 1821. We know nothing of him until his graduation from Marshall College in 1849. Then for two years he filled a double role as student at the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg and as Rector of the Preparatory Department of Marshall College.

He was graduated from the Seminary in 1851, and on May 21 of that year was licensed by Maryland Classis. After his licensure he served as supply-pastor at LaSalle, Mich., for about a year. He was ordained by Zion's Classis in 1852.

His first and only pastorate was served in the Mechanicsburg, Pa., Charge. from May 1852, until July, 1863, when he was compelled to resign on account of an affection of the throat which made preaching impossible. He then opened the Cumberland Valley Institute at Mechanicsburg and was its Principal for four years (until 1857). He then moved to the vicinity of Greencastle, Pa., to engage in agricultural pursuits. However, the next year (September 1, 1858) he became Principal of the Marshall Collegiate Institute, housed in the abandoned Preparatory Building of Marshall College.

In 1864 he moved to Williamsport, Md., to live on a farm. I do not know whether he conducted the Marshall Institute until his removal to Williamsport, or not. In 1866 he moved back to Greencastle where he resided until 1870.

In that year he took charge of a public school near Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Va. After one year in this position, he was elected Superintendent of the Public School System of Rockingham County, serving one term until 1874. He then became a Justice of the Peace

for three years (1874 - 1877). In 1877 he formed a partnership with his son to conduct a banking business, in which occupation he continued until his retirement in 1888. For several years before his death, he resided at Bridgewater, Va.

Mr. Loose died at his residence in Bridgewater, April 17, 1894, at the age of seventy-three. He was buried at Hagerstown.

Mr. Loose was married, March 10, 1853, to Miss Sarah Addie Gross. He was survived by his widow and two children.

References: Messenger; April 26, 1894

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

History of Maryland Classis

REV. B. R. HUECKER

B. R. Huecker was born in Rosenthal (Rounthal), Hesse, Germany, February 24, 1843. He was confirmed at the age of nineteen, already having dedicated himself to missionary work. For this particular service he prepared himself by attendance for several years at the Bonner Mission House.

His desire was to go into some part of the world where he could labor among a heathen people, but on account of the weakness of his physical constitution he had to abandon that idea. He was finally sent by the Missionary Society of Elberfeld, Germany, to work as a missionary among the Germans in America. One account says that he spent two years in study at the Mission House Seminary at Sheboygan, Wisconsin, graduating in 1869. Another account says that upon his arrival in America, he went to Cleveland to study theology at Calvin College under Dr. H. J. Reutenik, and then was sent to Sandusky to take charge of a school under Dr. Mueller.

He was licensed and ordained in 1869. His pastorates for some

years were in Minnesota and Wisconsin, as follows: At Norwood, Minn., nearly two years (1869 - 1870); at Alma, Wisc., three years (1870 - 1873). Here he built a church. At La Crosse, Wisc., one year (1873 - 1874).

He now realized that he was not able to endure the climate in a location so far north, hence, in August, 1874, he became pastor of the church at Covington, Ky, where he served for six years. He was then pastor of the Waukon, Iowa, Charge for nine years (1880 - 1889). Here, also, he built a church.

He was pastor at Manitowoc, Mich., for three and one half years; at Denver, Colorado, for one year, then moved in 1893 to Lennox, South Dakota, for a brief pastorate of less than a year.

He died at Lennox, March 31, 1894, at the age of fifty-one. At the funeral services on April 4, Rev. J. H. Schoom was in charge, assisted by two other ministers. He was survived by his widow and three children.

References: Messenger; May 3, 1894

May 31, 1894

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1895

REV. AMOS H. KREMER, D. D.

Mr. Kremer came from a family of ministers: two of his brothers, Revs. F. W. and A. R., and his two sons, Revs. E. N. and Stephen K. Kremer, all being pastors in the service of the Reformed Church. His parents, Frederick William and Margaret Kremer, were devoted members of the Reformed Church, so he was brought up in a cultured Christian atmosphere.

Amos H. Kremer was born at Washingtonboro, Lancaster County, Pa., November 3, 1814. He was the oldest child in a family of six brothers

and four sisters. He was baptized in infancy in the Reformed Church at Columbia, Pa., of which his parents were members.

Mr. Kremer entered the High School at York in 1834, and then when the institution was moved to Mercersburg to become Marshall College, he continued his studies in the college, graduating in 1837. He then entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating from the latter institution in 1839. While at Mercersburg he was Superintendent of a Sunday School attended by colored children and adults.

He was licensed by Synod in 1839 and ordained by Zion's Classis, November 7, 1839. He was installed into his first pastorate to serve the Shippensburg, Pa., Charge. After six years here, he became pastor in July, 1845, of the First Church at Carlisle. He served this church until April 1, 1861, when he became pastor of the First Reformed Church at Lancaster, Pa., his installation occurring on April 21. In June, 1876, Mr. Kremer offered his resignation, but yielding to the request of the congregation that he continue, he withdrew it and remained as pastor of the First Church until October, 1877. He then returned to Carlisle for a second pastorate which continued until his death. He had intended to retire in July, 1893, and had offered his resignation which the congregation refused to accept, earnestly urging him to remain in the pastorate until his eightieth birthday; a hope that was not quite realized. Altogether Mr. Kremer was pastor at Carlisle (two pastorates) for a period of thirty-three years.

At the time of his last illness he was moved to the home of his son-in-law at Greencastle, where he died May 8, 1894, at the age of seventy-nine.

The funeral services were held on May 11 at the church in Carlisle. Rev. E. V. Gerhart was in charge, assisted by Revs. S. N. Callender

and Henry Harman of Dickinson College. He was buried at Carlisle. He was survived by one son, Rev. E. N. Kremer, and by one daughter.

On November 26, 1839, he was married to Rebecca Kieffer, daughter of Stephen Kieffer. In 1889, Dr. and Mrs. Kremer celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

In 1872 Mr. Kremer received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Franklin and Marshall College. From 1853 to 1858, Dr. Kremer was Secretary of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary. He was President of the Board from 1871 to 1894.

In October, 1894, a biography of Dr. Kremer was published by his brother, Rev. A. R. Kremer.

References: Messenger; May 10, 1894

June 21, 1894

October 11, 1894

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1895

REV. OSWALD E. ACCOLA

O. E. Accola was the son of Rev. Dr. O. J. Accola and his wife, Joanna (Schenerman) Accola. He was born at Ashford, Wisc., where his father was pastor of the Reformed Church at the time of his birth, January 29, 1865. He was baptized March 2, 1865, by Rev. J. F. Vergenz, and confirmed at Dayton, Ohio, March 21, 1880, by his father. He was for a time a student at Calvin College in Cleveland, finishing his college course at the Mission House College at Sheboygan, Wisc. He attended the Mission House Seminary for two years and finished his theological training at the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1888.

He was licensed, May 26, 1886, and ordained November 2, 1888, by St. John's Classis. After a short period as assistant to Rev.

J. G. Zahner at Shanesville, Ohio, he assumed the pastorate of the German congregation at Denver, Colorado. He spent only nine months at Denver, and then accepted a Call to the Reformed Church at Humboldt, Nebraska. However, after two years he was compelled to resign this pastorate on account of the state of his health. After this he became worse, the victim of a mysterious disease affecting almost his whole body and which baffled his physicians either to cure, or even to diagnose.

In 1891 he returned to the home of his father-in-law in New Philadelphia, Ohio, to linger in great physical suffering until his death May 13, 1894, at the age of twenty-nine. For two years previous to his passing, he was bed-fast.

The funeral services on May 15, were in charge of Rev. J. B. Rust, pastor of the Church at New Philadelphia, who preached the sermon in German. Rev. J. C. Kreusch of the Presbyterian Church preached in English.

Mr. Accola was married August 26, 1891, by Rev. J. B. Rust, to Miss Matilda Senhauser of New Philadelphia, Ohio. He was survived by his widow, his father, and a sister.

References: Messenger; May 24, 1894

May 31, 1894

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1895

REV. ALBERT RHODES THOMPSON

A. R. Thompson whose whole life seemed to have been filled with a succession of misfortunes from his boyhood to his death was the son of William and Catherine Thompson. He was born in Blair County, Pa., February 10, 1851.

He was evidently born into a home of poverty. Not only were his parents unable to help him financially in securing an education, but early in life he was compelled to earn his own living and assist in the support of his parents' family. While yet a youth he had learned the meaning of hard laborious work in digging ditches, handling a pick and maul in track repair work on the railroad, and finally in an unsuccessful venture in trying to exist on a worn-out farm and vineyard in Huntingdon County. Labor and failure seemed to be his lot in life.

He had been confirmed as a member of the Reformed Church on October 24, 1869, but, as he confessed, he never partook of the Holy Communion after that date. It was not long until he had given up all pretensions of being a Christian.

In 1872 he suffered a severe attack of typhoid fever from which he was not expected to recover. In the fall of 1873 he went to work in the office of the "Pilgrim", a weekly newspaper published in Huntingdon. Now in better financial circumstances and enjoying a better social environment, he seems to have regained confidence in himself and to have attained moral and spiritual stability. He was re-confirmed as a member of the church at Huntingdon on January 29, 1874.

Now, two opportunities presented themselves. Having become a capable printer and having shown considerable business ability, some friends, who were able and willing to help him financially, offered to buy the property of the "Cove Echo", a weekly newspaper published at Martinsburg, Pa., and install him as editor and manager. But now, another alternative appeared. Rev. Abner Dale, an intimate friend, presented to him the claims of the Christian Ministry as a career for the young man. He demurred at first, taking the position that he was content to find a life career in the printing trade.

However, the challenge to become a minister prevailed. On August 31, 1874, he entered Ursinus College to prepare himself for service in the Church as a pastor. He finished the college course and then continued his studies in the Theological Department of Ursinus College, graduating in 1879.

He was licensed by Philadelphia Classis on June 9, 1879, and on October 5 of the same year was ordained by Lancaster Classis and installed as pastor of the Hummelstown, Pa., Charge. After a service of two years here, he resigned in April, 1881, to become pastor of St. Paul's Charge in Chester County, Pa.. In June 1883, he accepted a Call to the Upper Bethel (Mt. Bethel), Pa., Charge which he served until May, 1888.

He then moved to Mt. Crawford, Va., to become pastor of the North River (Rockingham) Charge. In 1890 Mr. Thompson was partially paralyzed, but continued in pastoral work until April, 1892, when, on account of continued bad health, he was compelled to resign and retire permanently from the labors of the ministry.

He then came to Collegeville, Pa., with his family, to reside there until his death on June 22, 1894, at the age of forty-three. His condition at Collegeville was further aggravated by his extreme poverty. In response to two appeals in the Messenger, many contributions of money and clothing were sent to relieve the need of the unfortunate family.

The funeral services on June 27 in Trinity Reformed Church at Collegeville were in charge of the pastor, Rev. J. H. Hendricks. Rev. J. H. Sechler preached the sermon and Rev. Hendricks delivered a biographical address. Rev. H. W. Super also assisted in the services. He was buried in the cemetery connected with the church at Collegeville. He was survived by his widow and eight children.

References: Messenger; June 28, 1894

July 5, 1894

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1895

REV. AARON WANNER, D. D.

Aaron Wanner was born in Skippack Township, Montgomery County, Pa., June 14, 1818. His parents were devoted members of the Reformed Church. Aaron was baptized in infancy by Rev. George Wack, pastor of Wentz's Church of which his parents were members. He himself became a member of that congregation by confirmation in 1833.

He was graduated from Marshall College in 1841 and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1843. He was licensed by the Synod of the United States in October, 1843.

In November of that year he was ordained and installed as pastor of the McConnellsburg, Pa., Charge, where he served for three years. He then went to Ohio to become pastor of the Bethlehem Charge at Navarre. During his service here a new church was built. After a year and one half in this pastoral relationship, he accepted a Call to the Washingtonville, Ohio, Charge which he served from 1848 until 1855. Here his work was most successful in that he was able in a period of seven years to increase the number of congregations in his Charge from three to nine.

From 1855 to 1859 he was pastor of the Germantown, Ohio, Charge. He then came back to Pennsylvania as pastor of the Grindstone Hill Charge, consisting of three congregations, with his residence at Chambersburg. However, after six months, he returned in the latter part of 1859 to Germantown, Ohio, to serve there in a second pastorate of more than eight years (1859 - 1867)

In April, 1867, Mr. Wanner took charge of a newly-organized German congregation at Cumberland, Md; also serving as supply at Frostburg, Md. In the period of two years he organized congregations at Frostburg and Mt. Savage, Md., besides bringing the Cumberland congregation to a condition of prosperity and stability.

From October, 1869, until October, 1874, he was pastor of Heidelberg Church, York, Pa., also supplying the Mt. Zion Charge in York County. During the year 1875, he was without a pastoral Charge but was employed as agent for Ursinus College in a financial campaign for buildings and endowment.

From 1876 until 1882 he was pastor of the York Springs, Pa., Charge. His last pastoral relation was in the Kreutz Creek Charge, with Residence at Hellam, Pa. Here he served from 1882 until his death, June 23, 1894, at the age of seventy-five, after fifty-one years in the ministry. During his pastorate at Kreutz Creek he organized congregations at Frysburg and Red Lion. Mr. Wanner leaves the unique record of having built eight churches and organized eleven congregations during his ministerial career.

At the funeral services in Trinity Church, Hellam, Rev. J. O. Miller was in charge and preached the sermon. A number of ministers of the Reformed Church and other denominations were present at the services.

In September, 1844, Mr. Wanner was married to Miss Rebecca Miller of Franklin County, Pa., His widow and five children survived him. One son was for many years Judge of the County Court in York, and another was Superintendent of the York School System.

In 1879 Mr. Wanner received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Ursinus College.

In addition to his pastoral duties, Dr. Wanner found time to contribute many fine articles to the church papers, especially

the Messenger and to the Christian World, of which from July, 1870, he was for several years a contributing editor.

In July, 1853, he published his popular book, "Family, Marriage, and the Training of Children". Later he published a second book, "The Road to Success".

References: Messenger; June 28, 1894

July 12, 1894

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1895

REV. GEORGE WILLIAM WELKER, D. D.

G. W. Welker was a Pennsylvanian by birth, but a North Carolinian from the day of his ordination until the day of his death. He was the son of Daniel and Anna-Mary Welker and was born near Greencastle, Pa., November 3, 1817. He was baptized in Hagerstown, Md., by Rev. J. R. Reilly. He was graduated from Marshall College in 1839 and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1841.

Late in that year (1841) he went South to become a missionary pastor in North Carolina Classis, serving even before licensed in the Guilford, N. C., Charge. At the next annual meeting of North Carolina Classis he was licensed and ordained, March 27, 1842, and formally installed. Mr. Welker served that same Charge throughout his whole ministerial career for more than half a century, 1841 - 1893.

Unlike several other northern men, who were disturbed at the time of the breaking out of the Civil War and either resigned their pastorates hurriedly to flee from the region south of the Potomac River, or else lived in Confederate territory during those unhappy years in great fear and discomfort in what they considered a foreign

atmosphere, Mr. Welker, by residence and pastoral labor among Southern people for twenty years before 1861, and having long before gained the confidence and affection of his people, had no such fears. He carried on his work during the Civil War years as well as he was able, giving his service to the people whom he loved with an earnest Christian love, and under conditions which added greatly to his labor and concern as a pastor.

In 1865 after the cessation of hostilities, the first message to the Reformed Church in the North came from Mr. Welker in an extended article in the Messenger, in which he gave a full report of the activities of the congregations in North Carolina during the War, and a frank statement of their condition as he found it. This was the first news of the Church in North Carolina for several years.

For him there was no South or North. He was a consecrated Christian pastor whose concern was the salvation of the souls entrusted to him. It is no wonder, then, that with such a spirit, Mr. Welker was able to continue his pastorate among the people whom he had shepherded for a quarter of a century, leading them ever toward the goal which is always clear before every devoted Christian minister. Nor is it any wonder that after he and his people had suffered together through four years of a terrible war, with its consequent damage to the interests of the Christian Church, financially and spiritually, there was no thought of his leaving them for a more prosperous or less laborious Charge, nor even if he had suggested such a thing would his people have let him go. He was their pastor and they were his people for fifty-two years and until advancing years and impaired physical powers compelled him finally to relinquish the duties of the ministry. He resigned the Guilford Charge on June 1, 1893, and moved to Lamont, N. C., to spend his remaining

days in retirement.

He died at Lamont on July 9, 1894, at the age of seventy-six. The funeral services on July 11, were in charge of Revs. J. D. Andrew and J. C. Clapp. Dr. Clapp preached the sermon. Revs. Andrew and J. L. Murphy delivered addresses. He was buried at Mt. Hope, N. C.

In 1892 Mr. Welker celebrated the fiftieth anniversary as formal pastor of the Guilford Charge.

In 1888, Mr. Welker published a "History of North Carolina Classis" in a series of articles appearing in the Messenger. In 1870 Mr. Welker received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of North Carolina. In 1871 Heidelberg College conferred the same degree upon him.

Mr. Welker was married three times: First, to Miss Abigail Mason in April, 1843; Second, to Miss Louisa Mason, a sister of his first wife; and Third, to Miss Jane Carbrrie, who survived him.

References: Messenger; July 12, 1894

July 26, 1894

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1895

REV. CHARLES BECKER

Charles Becker was the son of Rev. Dr. Jacob Christian Becker and grandson of Rev. Dr. Christian Ludwig Becker, both distinguished ministers of the Reformed Church

He was born at Kreidersville, Northampton County, Pa., June 1, 1817. He was graduated from Marshall College in 1843 and then studied theology under the supervision of his father. He was licensed and ordained in 1846. He served as assistant to his father at Stone

Church in Northampton County and at his father's retirement, became the elder Becker's successor.

In 1855 he became pastor of the Chestnut Hill Charge in Monroe County, Pa., which he served until his retirement in 1879.

He died at Philadelphia, June 15, 1894, at the age of 77. The funeral services on June 17 were in charge of Rev. James Crawford, pastor of Christ Church, Philadelphia. He was buried in Northwood Cemetery, Oak Lane.

Mr. Becker was married, April 24, 1855, to Miss Caroline Yeager. He was survived by his widow and five children.

References: Messenger; July 16, 1894

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1895

REV. JESIAH (JERIAH) SHUNK SHADE

J. S. Shade was born, September 9, 1818, in Montgomery County, Pa. One source to which we have access says that he was graduated from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1848. However, the Seminary Register gives no mention of his ever having been a student at that institution.

He was licensed by Goshenhoppen Classis in June of 1848, and ordained by Westmoreland Classis two years later (July, 1850).

Again, our sources differ as to his ministerial career. One account says that upon graduation from the Seminary, he entered upon the pastorate of the Tylersburg, Pa., Charge, serving there from 1850 to 1856. He then served the Bellefonte, Pa., Charge for three years (1856 - 1858); the Jerusalem Charge from 1858 to 1861; and the St. Petersburg, Pa., Charge from 1861 to 1865.

The other source lists his ministerial labors as follows: A Charge in Clarion County, Pa., 1850 - 1854, Bellefonte, Pa., Charge,

1854 - 1855, Block House (Liberty Valley) Charge at Tylersburg,
1855 - 1865.

Both sources agree that from 1865 he served in the Fairview Charge, Chicora, Pa., from 1865 to 1869; supply pastor of Zion's Church in 1869; pastor of the Selinsgrove, Pa., Charge from March to November in 1870; and at the McConnellsburg, Pa., Charge from 1870 to 1876.

In 1876 he went West to become pastor of the Astoria, Ill., Charge for eight years, 1876 to March, 1884. He served a short pastorate in the Broken Sword, Ohio, Charge from March to September in 1884, and then retired, returning to McConnellsburg, Pa., to reside. He was appointed postmaster of that village and served as such for several years. Later he established his residence in Philadelphia, and then still later at Trappe.

He died in Philadelphia, July 31, 1894, in the Hahnemann Hospital, following an operation. He had attained the age of seventy five years.

Funeral Services were held on August 3. He was buried at Trappe. Mr. Shade was married, June 11, 1848, to Miss Charlotte Peterman of Trappe. His widow and two sons survived him.

References: Messenger; August 9, 1894

October 11, 1894

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1895

REV. FRANKLIN KLEIN LEVAN, D. D.

F. K. Levan, of Huguenot ancestry, was born in Maxatawny Township, Berks County, Pa., July 15, 1831. He prepared for college at the Elmwood Institute at Norristown under the Presidency of Rev. Kooker. After three years of study here, he entered Marshall Col-

lege in 1847 and was graduated as a member of the first graduating class in the newly-established Franklin and Marshall College in 1853.

On account of the visit of Dr. Schaff to Europe the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg was closed for a year (1853 - 1854), hence the beginning of Mr. Levan's preparation for the ministry was delayed for a year. After Dr. Schaff's return, Mr. Levan entered the Seminary in 1854, graduating in 1856. He was licensed by the Synod in October, 1856 and assigned to the East Pennsylvania Classis. He was ordained by Westmoreland Classis in May, 1857, and installed as pastor of the Somerset, Pa., Charge where he remained for a pastorate of four years (1857 - 1861). In 1861 he resigned to become Principal of Westmoreland College, located at Mt. Pleasant, Pa. He served in this position for six years (1861 - 1867) and also as pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Charge from 1862 to 1864. He was then appointed "Local Bishop" and General Superintendent of Missions in the Pittsburgh area and occupied that office until 1873, residing at Oakland and Wilkesburg, near Pittsburgh.

Upon the organization of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions in 1873, Mr. Levan was appointed one of the Superintendents. He served as Superintendent of Home Missions until 1878, when he became pastor of Zion's (First) Reformed Church at Wilkesbarre, Pa., in which pastorate he served until his death. At the time of his installation, this was a "combined" congregation, English and German; hence, for some time Mr. Levan used both languages in the worship services of his church.

Dr. Levan died at his home in Wilkesbarre, November 13, 1894, at the age of sixty-three. Funeral services were held at Wilkesbarre in the evening of November 15, and then on the next day further services were held in the Second Reformed Church at Reading. Dr.

Bausman preached the sermon from the text: Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter 24, Verses 45 - 46. He was buried in the Charles Evans Cemetery at Reading.

Dr. Levan was married in 1864 to Miss Sarah Ann Ermentrout. His widow and three children survived him. A daughter was married to Rev. W. D. Happel, Dr. Levan's successor at Wilkesbarre.

In 1891 Mr. Levan received from Franklin and Marshall College the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. At the time of his death he was President of the Eastern Synod.

Dr. Levan was the authro of many articles published in the church papers. Besides others, he prepared and published in the Messenger a series of articles under the general title "Wyoming Papers; he wrote under the pen-name "Wyoming". From 1891 until his death, Dr. [Levan was chief editorial writer of the Messenger.

References: Messenger; November 15, 1894

November 22, 1894

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1896

REV. SAMUEL PHILIPS

Although Mr. Philips did not spend his whole pastoral career as a minister of the Reformed Church, his service while he stood in that connection was so outstanding that he should rightfully be included among the "Fathers of the Reformed Church". He was born not far from Hagerstown, Md., June 14, 1823. His parents must have lived on the Pennsylvania side of the Mason and Dixon's Line since they were members of one of the congregations of the Mercersburg Charge, and the son, during his preparation for the ministry was under the care of Mercersburg Classis.

He was graduated from Marshall College in 1847, and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1848. He was licensed by Mercersburg Classis in 1848. After his licensure Mr. Philips spent a few months as supply-pastor of the Hollidaysburg, Pa., Charge. In June, 1849, having received and accepted a Call, he was ordained by Maryland Classis and installed as pastor of the Burkittsville, Md., Charge.

After a service of four years at Burkittsville (until September, 1852) he went to Dayton, Ohio, as pastor of the congregation in that city. After one year (1853) Mr. Philips became pastor of the Martinsburg, Pa., Charge, which he served for two years. Next he served the Jefferson, Md., Charge from the beginning of 1855 until December 1856. From January 1, 1857 until April 1, 1861, he was pastor of First (Zion) Reformed Church at Chambersburg, Pa.

His next pastorate was in the First Church, Carlisle, Pa., which he served from 1861 to 1866. His pastoral work here, however, was interrupted by a service of more than two years in the United States Army. For two years he was Sergeant-Major in the 160th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. In 1864 he was promoted to First Lieutenant, and served as such until the end of the Civil War. After the War he returned to Carlisle for one more year of pastoral service, before he accepted a Call to St. John's (English) Reformed Church at Allentown, Pa.. During part of stay at Carlisle, he supplied the Boiling Spring Charge.

He was in Allentown but a short time, for in November 1867, he became pastor of the newly-organized First English Reformed Church in Baltimore, Md., recruited largely from the membership of the old First (German) Church in Baltimore, to accommodate those members who desired to worship in the English language.

Mr. Philip's work in Baltimore was very fruitful. During his

stay a church building was erected, although on this account the congregation had to go heavily into debt, and a parsonage had been purchased. The congregation was making commendable progress, but was soon in financial difficulties. After Mr. Philips had appealed to the Church at large for help, but without result, and Maryland Classis was not able to offer any aid, then Mr. Philips became discouraged, resigned, and was dismissed to the Presbyterian Church in 1871. Not many years afterwards the First English congregation of Baltimore was dissolved, but its membership was not lost to the Church. These were organized into Zion congregation of Baltimore which bought the property of the First English Church and continues as a congregation to this day.

Mr. Philips' pastoral career in the Presbyterian Church includes the following pastorates: Upper Roxborough, Pa., 1871 - 1878; Levering Ave., Philadelphia, 1878 - 1880; Superintendent of Dauphin St. Mission, Philadelphia, 1881. He retired at Doe Run, Pa., in 1882.

He died at the home of his daughter in Germantown, Pa., September 1, 1892, at the age of sixty-eight. He had been an invalid since 1885. Funeral services on September 3 were held from the home of his son at Wayne, Pa.

In November, 1848, Mr. Philips was married to Miss Rebecca Kay, who predeceased her husband about a year.

In the earlier years of his ministry Mr. Philips was a prolific writer. His published books include "Gethsemane of the Cross", published in 1851; "The Christian Home", published in 1859; and "The Voice of Blood", published in 1864. Between 1851 and 1870 he contributed more than a hundred articles to the Messenger. From 1870 he was a contributing editor of the Christian World.

References: Messenger; September 15, 1892

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. PHILIP SCHAFF (SCHAF), Ph. D., D. D., LL. D., Th. D.

Of course it is not our intention to present here a detailed or exhaustive biography of this distinguished minister and church historian. Such a task would be beyond our capabilities. For full and worthy accounts of the life of this eminent man of the Church, the reader is referred to "The Life of Philip Schaff", published some years ago by his son, Dr. David Schley Schaff, Professor in the Western Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church; and to the biography of Dr. Schaff, prepared by Dr. David Dunn and published in "The History of the Theological Seminary", by Dr. G. W. Richards, (1952). This present brief sketch is meant only to place Dr. Schaff as a "Father of the Reformed Church", together with the hundreds of other faithful ministers of the Church, who labored as he did for the glory of God and the promotion of His Church on earth.

Philip Schaf (He spelled the name with one "f" until 1851) was born at Chur, Switzerland, January 1, 1819. His education was thorough and extensive. Already at the age of twenty-three he was examined in the universities in Germany on the basis of determining his capabilities for a professorship in the University of Berlin, in which institution he was lecturer from 1842 until 1844.

Upon the recommendation of Drs. Hoffeditz and Schneck, who had been sent to Europe to find a proper scholar for the second professorship in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, Professor Schaf (who at that time already held a Doctor's degree) was elected by the Synod to the position late in the year 1843. Having accepted

the professorship, Dr. Schaf came to America, arriving on July 30, 1844. Immediately he proceeded to Mercersburg where he received a rousing welcome. He was inaugurated at a meeting of the Synod at Reading in October, 1844, at which time and on which occasion he was ordained to the Christian ministry and assigned to Mercersburg Classis.

Dr. Schaff's labor as professor was carried on without interruption until 1853, when he was given a leave of absence by the Synod in order that he might make a visit to Europe. During his absence from Mercersburg, the Seminary was closed for a year. In that year he was elected the first president of Franklin and Marshall College, but declined the position.

Upon his return in 1854 he resumed his teaching duties and served in the Seminary until 1862. By that time, several developments in Dr. Schaff's life made it evident that he could no longer be satisfied to live in an isolated community, such as was Mercersburg at the time. In the first place, his reputation as a scholar and lecturer had become so wide-spread that he felt he had to seek a larger outlet for the use of his talents than could be found in a small institution. Also, Dr. Schaff was becoming well-known as an author, and he desired to reside in a place closer to the facilities for the publication of his literary work. All in all, it was clear that the Reformed Church would soon lose his services in its little Seminary. In 1859 he was elected pastor of the First Church in Philadelphia, but the Synod would not release him from his Seminary duties.

In 1862 he asked for and received permission from the Synod to lecture in Hartford Theological Seminary. This was really the end of Dr. Schaff's services in the Seminary at Mercersburg.

At the end of his engagement at the Hartford Seminary, he asked

for and was granted another leave of absence to make a trip to Europe. He sailed early in 1865, but before he departed, submitted his resignation, with the demand that Synod accept it. Synod, with no alternative, accepted the resignation at its annual meeting in 1865, and at the same session dismissed him to the New York Classis of the Reformed Dutch Church.

Upon his return from Europe, he began his labors in Union Theological Seminary in New York City, where he continued until about a year before his death. In 1866 he declined election to the German Professorship in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg.

In 1892 Dr. Schaff suffered a stroke of paralysis which practically incapacitated him for any further service. He died at his home in New York City, October 2, 1893.

In November, 1845, Dr. Schaff was married to Miss Maria Schley of Frederick, Md., a descendant of John Thomas Schley who was school-teacher and organist of the Reformed Congregation at Frederick in 1748, and who built the first house in Frederick. Dr. and Mrs. Schaff were the parents of three children, a daughter and two sons. One son was Dr. David Schley Schaff, the distinguished church historian.

Dr. Schaff was well-supplied with learned degrees. When he came to America in 1844 he already held the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. In 1854 he received the degree of Doctor of Theology from the University of Berlin. Also he possessed the degrees of Doctor of Divinity and Doctor of Laws.

Dr. Schaff's literary productions are extensive and well-known. His inaugural address, "The Principle of Protestantism" delivered in 1844 before the Synod, was enlarged and published in 1845. Almost as important was his "What Is Church History?", published not many years afterwards. He was translator and editor of the giant "Schaff-

Herzog Cyclopedia of Religious Literature", published over an interval of ten years. "German Universities and Divines" was published after his return from the first visit to Europe. He published a German hymn-book and was founder and editor for many years of the "Kirchenfreund", a religious periodical published in the German language.

His best-known literary work is "The History of the Christian Church". It was originally planned for seven volumes to cover the period from the First Pentecost through the Reformation in Switzerland and Germany. Volume V was omitted in the regular order that he might first cover the Reformation period, an omission that was afterwards filled by his son, Dr. D. S. Schaff, who published two volumes on the pre-Reformation Period to take the place of the planned fifth volume.

In addition, Dr. Schaff published a multitude of articles in the religious periodicals of the Reformed and Presbyterian Churches.

References: Messenger; October 26, 1893

November 2, 1893, ff

History of the Theological Seminary (Richards)

Life of Philip Schaff, by D. S. Schaff

Seminary Register

REV. HENRY CHARLES HEYSER (HEUSER)

H. C. Heyser was born in Sexholden, Germany, July 5, 1831. He came to America with his parents in 1843, but we do not know where the family lived prior to 1859.

He entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in the early part of 1853, but his theological education was interrupted by the closing of the Seminary in 1853, on account of the visit of Dr. Schaff to Europe. From the Seminary Register it appears that he

was the only member of his class. He did not return to complete his course when the Seminary was re-opened a year later, but did enter Franklin and Marshall College and graduated from the College in 1859. In that year he was licensed and ordained by West Susquehanna Classis and installed as pastor of the Liverpool, Pa., Charge. He served here until 1866 and then resigned to make a trip to Europe. Upon his return the next year, he requested and obtained his dismissal to the Reformed Dutch Church. In that denomination, he served as pastor of a congregation in Brooklyn, N. Y., for two years.

In the year 1869 (October), Mr. Heyser was received back into the Reformed Church in the United States as a member of St. Paul's Classis and installed by that Body as pastor of the Shenango Charge, Greenville, Pa., which he served until May, 1872.

While at Greenville, he brought complaint against St. Paul's Classis on account of some action taken by that Classis. When this complaint was considered by the Pittsburgh Synod at its annual meeting in 1872, the complaint was not sustained. He then appealed to the General Synod when again he received an unfavorable decision. The final action of St. Paul's Classis was to forbid his ever again performing any ministerial acts within the bounds of the Classis.

In November, 1873, Mr. Heyser became pastor of the Ebenezer, N. Y., Charge where he remained less than two years. From July, 1874, until 1876, he was pastor of a congregation at Rochester, N. Y. He retired in 1876, residing for a time at Rochester, and then until his death, at Brooklyn. During the years of his retirement, Mr. Heyser was busy in supplying vacant congregations.

He died at his home in Brooklyn, December 15, 1893, at the age of sixty-two. He was survived by his widow and three sons.

References: Messenger; February 1, 1894

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1895

REV. A. HAWKER

Our information about the life and career of Rev. A. Hawker is scant. He was born near Dayton, Ohio, November 1, 1813. We know nothing of his preparatory education. He was licensed and ordained in 1872 when he was already past middle age. The inference is that it was not his original intention to enter the ministry, but resided in his native community engaged in a secular occupation. He probably never studied theology, but was evidently above the average in mental ability and of considerable influence in his community, surrounded by friends and relatives. It is most probable that he was induced to assume the responsibilities of a pastor by taking charge of two small congregations close to his home, Mt. Carmel and Pisgah, even though he had not made any formal preparation for such work, because of the need of the congregations and their inability to pay a living salary to a regular pastor. It must be true, also, that the decision of the Classis to license and ordain him was influenced by the demand of the members of the congregations that he, whom they knew and trusted, and in whom they had the highest confidence, should be their pastor. At any rate he became the pastor of these two congregations, under the name of the Mt. Carmel Charge, until his retirement in 1884 on account of old age.

Mr. Hawker died at his home in the community in which he was born and where he had spent his whole life, February 27, 1895, at the age of eighty-one. He was buried in the cemetery of Hawker's

Church near Dayton.

Mr. Hawker was married twice. We do not know the date of his first marriage, the name of his first wife or the date of her death. He was married a second time to Miss Martha Hahn in April, 1887. His second wife and seven children survived him

Reference; Messenger

REV. HENRY WILLIAM HOFFMEIER

H. W. Hoffmeier sprang from a family of ministers. His grandfather was Rev. John Henry Hoffmeier, at one time pastor of the First Reformed Church at Lancaster, Pa. Rev. John William Hoffmeier was an uncle, Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier was his brother, Rev. Dr. J. H. A. Bomberger was a cousin, and Rev. Charles Hoffmeier was his father.

The only living representative of this long line of ministers of the Reformed Church is Rev. Dr. E. F. Hoffmeier, grandson of Rev. Charles Hoffmeier (his father was not a minister), now residing retired at Frederick, Md.

H. W. Hoffmeier was born at Lancaster, Pa., December 26, 1833, the son of Rev. Charles and Margaret Hoffmeier. He was baptized by his grandfather (Rev. John Henry) at Lancaster, and confirmed at Womelsdorf, Pa., by his father. At a rather late age he entered Franklin and Marshall College but left after about a year and a half (1857 - 1858). From that time until nearly ten years later, when he became a student in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, we are not informed as to his whereabouts or his occupation, except that he was in the United States army in 1863.

He was graduated from the Seminary in 1868 and in March of that year was licensed by Mercersburg Classis. Later in 1868 he was or-

dained by Mercersburg Classis and installed as pastor of the Yellow Creek Charge, Loysburg, Pa.. He served here for more than a year and then was without a Charge until 1870. He then accepted a Call to the Mill Creek Charge, Mt. Jackson, Va., where he remained for less than two years. After an interval of more than a year, during which time he was without a Charge, he became pastor in 1873 for a short time in the St. John's (Zion Valley) Charge, Belknap, Pa. From the latter part of 1873 he was agent for the Publication Board for several years.

In 1880 he opened a drug store in Middletown, Md., in which occupation he labored until August, 1894, when he retired on account of ill health, making his home with the family of his brother, Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, who was pastor of Christ Church at Middletown.

Mr. Hoffmeier died at Middletown on April 12, 1895 (Good Friday) at the age of sixty-two.

The funeral services on Easter Monday were in charge of Rev. E. R. Eschbach, who preached the sermon from the text: First Epistle to the Corinthians, Chapter 15, Verse 26. The funeral was attended by many ministers of the Reformed Church and of other denominations in Frederick and Washington Counties. He was buried in the cemetery of the Reformed Church at Middletown. Mr. Hoffmeier was never married.

References: Messenger; April 18, 1895

April 25, 1895

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1896

History of Maryland Classis

LIC. GEORGE KINZO KANEKO

Mr. Kaneko was the first student from Japan to receive his theological education in an institution of the Reformed Church in this country.

He was born at Hanamachi, Japan, October 10, 1865. He came to America in 1884, received his preliminary education at Franklin and Marshall Academy, then entered the College in 1887 and graduated in 1891. In the fall of that year he entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, graduating in 1894. Just after finishing his course at the Seminary he was licensed by Lancaster Classis (1894). During the scholastic year of 1894 - 1895, he was a post-graduate student in the Seminary, specializing in Old Testament Science, in preparation for his expected career as professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Literature in the Tohoku Gakuin, Sendai, Japan, to which position he had already been elected.

Just as he was preparing to return to Japan, in the early part of May, 1895, he was seized with an illness so severe that he was at once removed to the St. Joseph's Hospital in Lancaster. Here he died after an illness of only a few days, May 15, 1895, at the age of twenty-nine.

Funeral services on May 17, in Santee Chapel of the Seminary, were in charge of Rev. E. V. Gerhart, assisted by Rev. S. N. Callender, President of the Board of Foreign Missions, Rev. Dr. F. A. Gast, under whom Mr. Kaneko had studied in his post-graduate year, and Rev. Dr. J. S. Stahr, President of Franklin and Marshall College. Funeral addresses were delivered by Dr. T. G. Apple and Rev. W. E. Hoy. He was buried on the College lot in the Lancaster Cemetery.

References: Messenger: May 23, 1895

May 30, 1895

June 6, 1895

June 13, 1895

July 18, 1895

Seminary Register

REV. PETER J. SPANGLER

P. J. Spangler deserves an honored place on the list of faithful pastors who sowed the seed for the development of a strong Reformed Church in Ohio in the latter part of the nineteenth century. He served country Charges over a wide area of territory in Stark, Wayne, Summit and Defiance Counties in Ohio, and in Marshall County in Indiana. This service, spread over thirty years in the ministry, was given in spite of bad health which developed from time to time to such a degree that several times in his pastoral career he was compelled to cease his ministerial activities entirely for a season to recuperate on his farm.

He was born June 16, 1814. He had no opportunity for making an adequate preparation for the ministry. He was practically self-educated until he placed himself under the supervision of Rev. George Schollosser in 1842 at Navarre, Ohio. After studying for three years he was licensed by Sandusky Classis in 1845. In June, 1846, he was ordained by a committee of the same Classis, consisting of Revs. David Kemmerer and George Schlosser, and installed as pastor of the Walnut Bottom Charge, West Lebanon, Ohio. He was here for about a year; then became pastor of the Manchester, Ohio, Charge, consisting of the following congregations: Manchester, Greensburg, Johnson's Corner, Lockwood, Clinton, Fulton, Osnaburg and Piketown. Several of these congregations were in process of organization when he came into the Charge. In 1852 two more congregations at Uniontown and Milheim were added to his field.

In 1857 he resigned to become pastor of the East Liberty, Ohio, Charge. During his brief period of service here he organized a congregation at Wesley Mills. In the latter part of 1858 or the early part of 1859 he became pastor of the Summit, Ohio, Charge, which he served until the end of 1859 and then was compelled on account of the state of his health to stop preaching and retire to a farm which he had purchased in Farmer Township, Defiance County, Ohio.

Before the end of 1861 he had sufficiently recovered to be able to accept a Call to the Navarre, Ohio, Charge, which he served until 1865. He then moved to the Lafayette Charge, West Unity, Ohio. During his three years' service here (1865 - 1868) he preached for part of the time at Milford and Chickasaw congregations.

At the beginning of 1869 he began a pastorate in the West Union, Ohio, Charge, which was soon terminated by his break-down in health and consequent removal again to his farm for rest and recuperation.

He was in semi-retirement for about three years; then his health being much improved, he again entered the active ministry in the Marshall County Charge at Plymouth, Ind, serving from May, 1873, to August, 1874. After a second pastorate in the Summit Charge at Uniontown, Ohio (August, 1874 - August, 1877), he went back the third time to the farm. After several years at home he served a second pastorate at Plymouth, Ind., which was distinguished by the building of a church there, which was dedicated June 27, 1886. This was his last regular pastorate. He went back to the farm, this time to stay permanently. For a short time he supplied at Sherwood, Ohio, near his home, but even this arrangement was short-lived. Mr. Spangler was now in a state of physical and mental exhaustion. The first mental symptom was loss of memory. Soon he was not able to recognize members of his own family. His last years were spent

in his home, receiving the loving attention of his wife and children until the end which came quietly on June 10, 1895, at the age of eighty.

The funeral services were in charge of Rev. L. B. Clayton. He was buried in the Lost Creek Lutheran Cemetery at Farmer, Ohio.

Mr. Spangler was twice married. We are not informed as to the name of his first wife or the date of the marriage. His first wife died February 20, 1862, when he was pastor of the Navarre, Ohio, Charge. He was married a second time (date not known) to Rachel A. Everhart, who survived him with nine children.

References: Messenger; July 18, 1895

Christian World

Reformed Church Almanac, 1896

REV. TILGHMAN J. SEIPLE

T. J. Seiple was born in Northampton County, Pa., December 15, 1838. We know nothing of his life before his entrance into the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1862, where he spent two years. Upon his graduation in 1864, he was licensed by Synod in October of the same year.

Mr. Seiple then went West. In 1865 Tiffin Classis ordained him and installed him as pastor of the Carey, Ind., Charge, where he served for exactly one year. In May, 1866, he assumed the pastorate of the Bristol Charge at Marshallville, Ohio, where he served until January, 1869. In June, 1869, he became pastor of the New Berlin, Pa., Charge, and remained in that relationship until August of 1873 he was suspended from the functions of the Christian ministry and excluded by West Susquehanna Classis from the Communion of the Church.

Mr. Seiple accepted the judgment of the Classis and withdrew from the ministry, probably into a secular occupation. There is no further record of him until 1894.

At the annual meeting of West Susquehanna Classis in 1894, a letter, asking Classis to re-instate Mr. Seiple, and signed by Revs. L. K. Evans, C. Z. Weiser and A. J. G. Dubbs, was presented to the Classis. The letter was referred to a committee, consisting of Revs. John Dotterer, Tilghman Derr and M. O. Noll, and Elders Dr. S. G. Gutelius and H. W. Kreamer. The committee reported at that meeting, but Classis deferred action until at a special meeting in August, 1894, Mr. Seiple was restored to membership in the Church and to the Christian ministry.

Following his re-instatement, he asked for and received a letter of dismissal to East Pennsylvania Classis (August 16, 1894), but there is no record that he was ever received by that Classis. He probably moved back in 1894 to his former home in Northampton County.

We have found no record of his death except the mere announcement of it, given at the annual meeting of West Susquehanna Classis in May, 1895. There is no record of his funeral or place of burial.

References: Messenger; June 13, 1895

Seminary Register

REV. ORANGE E. LAKE

O. E. Lake was born in Wayne County, Ohio, October 8, 1837. His parents were members of the Reformed Church and were of English descent.

At the age of twenty he entered Haskell's Academy at Loudonville,

Ohio, where he spent one year. He was next a student for three and one half years at the Vermillion Institute at Haysville, Ohio. In September, 1863, he entered the Heidelberg Theological Seminary at Tiffin, graduating in 1865. He was licensed by Sandusky Classis on May 3, 1865, and on May 23 of that same year, was ordained by the same Classis and installed as pastor of the Reedsburg, Ohio, Charge.

On December 31, 1866, he began a service of three years at Shelbyville, Ill., and then on January 1, 1870, became pastor of the Mohicanville Charge at Ashland, Ohio, where he served for ne-arly four years.

In June, 1874, he began pastoral labor in the Glade Charge, Walkersville, Md. This Charge had just been reconstructed abd when Mr. Lake came it consisted of four congregations. Mr. Lake served satisfactorily for several years until 1879, when a complaint against him was filed with Maryland Classis. On investigation, it was found that the pastor and the Consistory could not be reconciled, so Classis dissolved the pastoral relationship (without a letter of resignation from Lake), the dissolution to be in effect May 1, 1879. The next year Mr. Lake became pastor of the Shelby, Ohio, Charge, where he served until the beginning of 1887.

In January, 1887, he was dismissed to the Congregational Church, to become pastor of the Mound City and Fairview congregations in Kansas. In 1892 he resigned from this pastoral connection, and then for more than a year was without a Charge, residing during this time at Powhattan, Kansas.

In January, 1894, he returned to the Reformed Church as missionary pastor of the congregation at Holton, Kan, where he served until his death.

Mr. Lake died at his home in Holton, June 15, 1895, at the age of fifty-seven. Funeral services were held in the Presbyterian Church

at Holton on June 18, in charge of Rev. H. Shumaker, who preached the sermon. The six pall-bearers were ministers of different denominations, but none of them of the Reformed Church. He was survived by his widow and three children.

Mr. Lake was married three times:

1. To Miss Sarah E. Burnside of Tiffin in 1867. She died in 1869.

2. To Miss Laura J. Mish in December, 1870. She died in October, 1874.

3. To Miss Lily Zimmerman of Walkersville, Md., January 18, 1876. She survived him for a number of years.

References: Messenger; June 27, 1895

July 11, 1895

Reformed Church Almanac, 1896

History of Maryland Classis

REV. JAMES GRANT

James Grant was born at Margate, Kent County, England, August 18, 1832, of Methodist parents. He came to America at the age of twenty and learned the trade of cabinet-making.

We know nothing further of him until the Allegheny Conference of the United Brethren Church issued him a license to preach, October 11, 1858. He held also a similar license from the Pittsburgh Conference of the Methodist Church, dated September 8, 1868.

At the organization meeting of the Pittsburgh Synod in 1870, Mr. Grant appeared and asked to be received as a member of the Synod. He was received and assigned to the Westmoreland Classis, but accounts differ whether he was received from the Methodist or the United Brethren denomination.

It is difficult to present an absolutely accurate account of his pastoral career from 1870 until 1878. It is sure that his residence was at Bradensville, Pa., for the greater part of this period. It seems that he served first the Zion's Valley (Shade) Charge in Westmoreland Classis, a mission Charge of two congregations, from 1870 until at least 1873. He was pastor of the St. John's Charge at Goheensville, Pa., from 1873 until 1877. He had left this Charge before October, 1878.

It is probable that Mr. Grant retired from the active ministry in 1878, and with the consent of Westmoreland Classis, engaged in a secular occupation (probably cabinet-making) until his death. He is listed "without Charge" in 1878 and residing at St. Clair, Pa., in the territory of Westmoreland Classis. In 1880 he was residing at Bradensville, and here was most likely his home for the remainder of his life. In 1885 his residence was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Grant died at the home of his daughter, near Pittsburgh, February 12, 1895. He was buried in the German Cemetery in the same vicinity. His widow died soon afterwards (July 25, 1895).

References: Messenger; June 27, 1895

Minutes of Pittsburgh Synod

Minutes of Westmoreland Classis

Reformed Church Almanac, 1896

REV. SAMUEL HILTON PHILLIPS

S. H. Phillips, son of George and Mary Phillips, was born at Pen Argyl, Pa., June 3, 1863. He was baptized in August, 1863, by Rev. I. K. Loos, and confirmed April 19, 1878, by Rev. H. H. W. Hibschan.

In his preparation for the Christian ministry, he spent one

year (1880 - 1881) at the Ursinus Academy, and then entered Ursinus College in the fall of 1881, graduating in 1885. During the next two years he was professor of Mathematics at Ursinus College; at the same time studying in the Ursinus School of Theology. He was graduated from the latter institution in 1887, in which year, also, he was licensed and ordained.

In the summer of 1887 he was elected pastor of St. John's Church at Chambersburg, Pa. This Call he saw fit to decline, but later in that year he accepted a Call to become pastor of the Durham Charge in Bucks County, Pa. This was his only pastoral Charge, which he served in peace and happiness to the end of his life. During his brief pastorate he was for a short time professor of Mathematics at Ursinus College.

Mr. Phillips developed blood-poisoning in the early summer of 1895. He was immediately removed to a hospital, in the expectation that his health would soon be restored. However, he became rapidly worse and in a desperate effort to save his life, his leg was amputated. All this was of no avail and his death occurred at the hospital on July 9, 1895, at the age of thirty-two.

The funeral services were held from the home of his mother in Pen Argyl on July 13, in charge of Revs. Ferer and Koplin. Further services were held on the same day at Stone Church, Pa., in charge of the pastor, Rev. S. P. Mauger, who also preached the sermon. Funeral addresses were delivered by Revs. H. H. W. Hibschan, E. C. Hibschan and D. E. Klopp. Revs. H. F. Long, J. J. Rothrock, G. Lisberger and Prof. Peters of Ursinus College participated in the services. Interment was made at Stone Church Cemetery.

Mr. Phillips was survived by his mother, and several sisters and brothers. He was never married.

A memorial service was held in the Durham Church on July 21, in charge of Revs. Super and Spangler of Ursinus College.

References: Messenger; July 18, 1895

July 25, 1895

Reformed Church Almanac, 1896

REV. CALVIN ULRICH HEILMAN

C. U. Heilman was a descendant of John Adam Heilman who came to America from Germany in 1738 and settled in North Annville Township, Lebanon County, Pa. The succeeding generations of Heilmans owned and occupied the same land for nearly two centuries and became one of the most prominent families of Lebanon County.

C. U. Heilman was the son of George Gingrich Heilman and his wife, Christina (Ulrich) Heilman, and was born at the ancestral home at Heilmandale, Lebanon County, Pa., November 24, 1840. His parents were members of the "Hill" Church where he was baptized February 17, 1841, and confirmed October 6, 1855.

His education began at the "Hamburger" School near his home. On October 1, 1854, he entered Beck's "Lititz Academy," where he was a student for one year, then for two years he was at the Heilmandale Select School, under the supervision of A. R. Kremer, who later was a prominent minister of the Reformed Church. He then received private instruction during the year of 1858 from Daniel Balsbaugh, Principal of the Annville Academy.

Having been so well prepared it is no wonder that he was able to graduate from Franklin and Marshall College in less than four years, being a member of the Class of 1862. He was duly graduated from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1864, in the same

Class with A. J. Heller, J. Spangler Kieffer, Simon S. Miller, John G. Noss, William Rupp, and other distinguished ministers of the Reformed Church.

He was licensed by the Synod in 1864, and then as a licentiate, served for a year as assistant to Rev. Henry Heckerman at Bedford, Pa. In 1865 he was ordained by Mercersburg Classis and installed as pastor of the St. Clairsville, Pa., Charge, consisting of five rural congregations. While in this Charge, he taught school for several terms.

In 1871 he resigned this Charge to be agent for Franklin and Marshall College. In this work he was very successful, securing about \$35,000 in cash and having the College named as beneficiary of the Wilhelm Estate, estimated to have a value of \$50,000 to \$500,000. He was also appointed Executor of the Estate.

On September 15, 1874, he entered the pastorate again in the Paradise Charge, Elk Lick, Pa., which he served until October, 1884. Then from November 1, 1884, until November 1, 1893, exactly nine years, he served the Water Street Charge, Alexandria, Pa.. In the latter part of 1893, he became pastor of the Greencastle, Pa., Charge, but his service here was brief. After a little more than a year, his health began to fail, and he was compelled to give up, temporarily as he hoped, his ministerial duties. He was given a leave of absence and went to Petersburg, Pa., for a period of rest. But his condition became worse, so on June 1, 1895, he formally resigned his Charge. He spent some time at Somerset, then was for a while at his father's home, then back to Greencastle. He died at Petersburg on July 24, 1895, at the age of fifty-four.

A funeral service was held at Petersburg the next afternoon, conducted by Rev. F. A. Rupley, Jr. On July 26, funeral services were held at the "Hill" Church near Annville, in charge of the

pastor, Rev. J. E. Hiester. Addresses were delivered by Revs. E. N. Kremer, S. R. Breidenbaugh, E. V. Gerhart, and in German by Dr. Hiester. He was buried in the Heilman family lot in the cemetery connected with the "Hill" Church. Twelve ministers attended the funeral.

On October 21, 1869, Mr. Heilman was married to Miss Mary D. McIlvaine of Gap, Pa. His widow and three children survived him. Rev. U. H. Heilman, a minister of the Reformed Church, was a brother.

Mr. Heilman was executor of the Wilhelm Estate, a member of the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College and of the Board of Regents of the Mercersburg Academy. During the years, 1880 - 1881, he was a Synodical Editor of the Messenger, representing the Synod of the Potomac.

References: Messenger; August 1, 1895

August 8, 1895

February 2, 1896

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1896

REV. JOHN B. POERNER

We have not been able to secure any information regarding the early life of Mr. Poerner. He was born about 1817, but we do not know where.

The first definite information we have of him is that he was ordained by Goshenhoppen Classis in 1846 and that he was pastor of a congregation at New London, N. Y., during the years 1846 and 1847. In the latter year he resigned and came to Philadelphia to reside. From 1848 to 1850 he was pastor of the Davis, Pa., congregation. This service may have been in another denomination as there are

no Reformed congregations in that part of Pennsylvania. From 1850 until May, 1855, he was pastor of the Millerstown, Pa., Charge. In 1856 he came to Conyngham, Pa., as a missionary pastor, residing, however, at Hazleton, Pa. This congregation he served until 1861, when he became pastor of the Second (Christ's) Church at Hagerstown, Md.

Mr. Poerner's pastorate at Hagerstown was not a happy one. The congregation had been the victim of a serious schism which had reduced its membership and resources. All these circumstances, added, perhaps, to an unhappy and unwise attitude toward his work, made the continuance of his pastorate impossible, so in 1862, Maryland Classis asked him to resign. He was then connected with the United States Army, whether as a regular Army chaplain or as a civilian engaged in hospital and Christian Commission work, we are not able to say. He was a member of Maryland Classis until September, 1865.

In 1864 he was living at Minersville, Pa., and from July, 1865, until January 1, 1868, he was pastor of the Minersville Charge. During this pastorate he served as supply at Pine Grove also. For several months he was without a Charge, residing in Philadelphia, and then in September, 1868, he went to Mansfield, Pa., as a missionary, but no congregation was established at that place as a result of his efforts. From January 1, 1869 until the early part of 1871 he was pastor of the Titusville, Pa., Charge and then came to Weatherly, Pa., where he was able to organize a congregation. His service ended here in May, 1872, when he was dismissed to the German Evangelical Church.

Mr. Poerner died in Philadelphia, July 30, 1895, at the age of seventy-eight. Funeral services were held on August 1, with interment at Lebanon, Pa.

References: Messenger; August 8, 1895

History of Maryland Classis

Reformed Church Almanac, 1896

REV. JOHN HIESTER LEINBACH

Mr. Leinbach was a member of a family connection which for several generations furnished the Reformed Church with a number of ministers.

J. H. Leinbach, son of Rev. Dr. A. S. Leinbach, and grandson of Rev. T. H. Leinbach, was born at Reading, Pa., where his father was pastor of the Reformed Church, December 14, 1852.

He was a graduate of the Boys' High School at Reading and taught school for several years before entering college. He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in 1875 and from the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1878. He was licensed in 1878 by Lebanon Classis, and in the same year and by the same Classis he was ordained and installed at Leesport as assistant to his father who at the time was pastor of the Schwarzwald Charge. He was designated, especially, as supply pastor of the Leesport and Schwarzwald congregations. In 1880 he became pastor of St. John's Church at Kutztown, Pa., and of the St. Peter's and Amityville ^{St. Paul's} congregations which were attached to the Charge, Here he continued to serve until the end of his life.

About six months before his death he suffered a stroke of paralysis. He was granted an unlimited leave of absence and was removed to a sanatorium at Clifton Heights, Pa., in the hope that his health would be restored. However, he became worse and died at the sanatorium on August 25, 1895, at the age of forty-two.

Funeral services were held at St. Paul's Church, Reading, August

30, in charge of Rev. B. Bausman, assisted by Rev. E. V. Gerhart. Dr. Bausman preached the sermon. Rev. J. C. Bowman delivered an address. He was buried at Reading. The funeral services were attended by thirty-five ministers of the Reformed Church, including ministerial relatives, as follows: Revs. T. C. Leinbach, S. A. Leinbach, J. Calvin Leinbach, Thomas H. Leinbach and Lic. E. E. H. Leinbach.

He was survived by his parents, three sisters and a brother. Mr. Leinbach was never married.

References: Messenger; August 29, 1895

September 5, 1895

Seminary Register

Reformed Church Almanac, 1896

REV. PETER HERBRUCK, D. D.

Dr. Herbruck is certainly to be mentioned as among the most prominent of the faithful pioneer ministers who labored in Ohio and adjacent States when, as far as the Reformed Church was concerned, that whole region was missionary territory. His career is a peculiar one. No one could claim that he was in a position to take advantage of favorable circumstances or that his remarkable ministry was the result of mere luck. Considering the lack of advantages in his life, economic and educational, it must be said that he was evidently a man of very superior qualities of character, and that his career, full of honors as well as of labors abundant, was the result of the inherent characteristics of the man and of an excellent application of every talent and resource at his command.

Peter Herbruck was born at ^{Grossschönhausen} ~~Henzberg~~, Germany, February 8, 1813. He enjoyed no unusual educational advantages. When he came to America

at the age of eighteen it was as a poor German immigrant, seeking a home and opportunity in a new land. He came, or rather, we may say, drifted West, finding a home with a family by the name of Wirt, whose residence was just west of Canton, Ohio, then a mere village. After he had become acclimated in his new home in America, he took charge of a country school in the neighborhood, teaching the elementary subjects to a group of children whose preparation was poor and whose attendance was poorer. But his contact with and responsibility for giving his young charges at least the rudiments of an education spurred him mentally and incited him to real study.

The family with whom he made his home were members of the Reformed Church in Canton, of which the pastor at the time was Rev. Benjamin Faust. Young Herbruck attended Church services regularly, became a member of the congregation, and then attracted the attention of Mr. Faust who saw in the young teacher those qualities which pointed him out as promising material for the ministry. In their conversations together, the subject was brought up again and again, until Mr. Herbruck was not only convinced that he ought to be a minister, but that he ought to begin his scholastic preparation without delay. Mr. Faust was willing to lend all the assistance at his command. He made his own meagre library available to young Herbruck and imparted what instruction he could.

It was the plan of God that this young student should apply himself so diligently to his preparation for the ministry. The time was shorter than he expected, for in no more than a year after Mr. Herbruck's arrival at Canton, Mr. Faust was called away by death. Young Herbruck, at the age of only nineteen years was called to be Mr. Faust's successor.

Humbly he heeded the Call, and at a tender age was called upon to assume a responsibility from which many a one ten years older

would have shrunk.

No one could estimate the difficulties which met this young minister right at the beginning of his service; the hard work to complete an education which he considered a minimum requirement for the position he occupied, the constant care and concern as he saw this small group of people grow year by year under his faithful ministrations into one of the largest and most influential congregations in the Reformed Church. From 1832 until August, 1885, a period of fifty-three years, Dr. Herbruck continued to serve this, his first and only pastoral charge.

The church papers have nothing to say about his work throughout this whole period, nor did he leave any work of a literary character. But the following pastoral record speaks eloquently of his tireless efforts during this long service of more than half a century: Marriages, 2611; Funerals, 2560; Baptisms, 5938; Confirmations, 2917.

Dr. Herbruck resigned his pastorate in August, 1885, due to advancing age and the tremendously increasing labors of the pastor of a congregation of the size to which ^{First} Trinity Church had grown. Just two months after his retirement, he was stricken with paralysis. From that time on until his death nearly fourteen years later, he lived quietly in Canton as a semi-invalid, surrounded by a devoted family and in the midst of a host of adoring friends. He died at his home, September 22, 1895, at the age of eighty-two.

Funeral services were held in ^{First} Trinity Church on August 24, in charge of the pastor, Rev. F. Strassner. He was buried in the ^{Westlawn} Woodlawn Cemetery at Canton.

In November, 1833, Mr. Herbruck was married to Miss Sarah Holwick. To their marriage, thirteen children were born, of whom ten were living at the time of his death. Two of his sons, Revs. E., and

Connections supplied by Jay L. Gordon, Canton, Ohio 6-27-61

E. P. Herbruck were ministers of the Reformed Church.

In January, 1882, Dr. Herbruck celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination and of his pastorate at ^{First} Trinity Church. In November, 1883, Dr. and Mrs. Herbruck celebrated their Golden Wedding.

References: Messenger; October 3, 1895

October 10, 1895

REV. GEORGE BENSON DECHANT

G. B. Dechant was a member of a family of ministers who through six generations served the Reformed Church. His great-grandfather and his grandfather were ministers, as were his father, Rev. J. W. Dechant, two brothers, Revs. Frank W. and Augustus L. Dechant, a nephew, Rev. A. S. Dechant, and two great-nephews, Revs. John M. and Clement W. Dechant.

He was born in Oley Township, Berks County, Pa., June 24, 1827, the son of Rev. Jacob W. and Mary Rebecca (Andreas) Dechant. He was baptized by Rev. Conrad Miller, a Lutheran minister.

When George was five years old his father died of the cholera. His mother, left with ten children, of whom George was next to the youngest, was not able to support so large a family; hence the children were separated to be reared in foster-homes here and there. George went to live in the family of Leonard Metz, near Norristown, Pa., where he worked on the farm and attended such schools as were to be found in the rural sections at that early date. In time, he learned the weaving and fulling trade. At the proper age he was confirmed at Boehm's Church.

At an early age Mr. Dechant manifested a decided talent for music, especially vocal. He also early expressed a desire to

enter the ministry, which received every encouragement from his foster-father, Mr. Metz. For a time he attended the Boyertown, P-a., Academy and then became a student in the New Berlin, Pa., Union Seminary, where, in connection with his studies, he taught vocal music. Here he came under the influence of Rev. Henry Aurand, pastor of the Reformed Church at New Berlin, who became interested in the young man and not only encouraged him in his ambition to become a minister, but also in a financial way made it possible for him to spend three years in New York City in mission and settlement work. For two years of that time he was in attendance at the Union Theological Seminary (1857 - 1859). In 1859 he came to Mercersburg to become a student in the Theological Seminary there, graduating in 1860.

He was licensed by East Susquehanna Classis in 1860. Later in that same year, having received and accepted a Call to become pastor of the Hamilton Charge at Stroudsburg, Pa., he was ordained and installed by East Pennsylvania Classis. From 1863 his residence was at Fennersburg, Pa., until 1872.

He served the Hamilton Charge for twelve years (1860 - 1872). From 1866 to 1870 he also served the Brodhead congregation. In 1872 he became pastor of the Catawissa Charge. In 1886 the Catawissa Charge was divided; a new Charge (Numidia) being constituted from some of the original field served by Mr. Dechant. After the division Mr. Dechant chose to shepherd the new Numidia Charge where he continued to the end of his life. He died at his home in Catawissa of nervous prostration September 19, 1895, at the age of sixty-eight.

Funeral services were held on September 23 in charge of Rev. A. Houtz who also preached the sermon. He was assisted in the service by Revs. J. C. Leinbach, E. D. Miller and D. W. Ebbert. Rev. S. P. Brown officiated at the grave. The funeral was attended

by twenty-eight ministers, of whom eight served as pall-bearers.

Mr. Dechant was married, September 18, 1860, to Miss Elizabeth C. Gross who, with five children, survived him. Also, one brother, Rev. A. L. Dechant, survived.

References: Messenger; October 3, 1895

October 10, 1895

Seminary Register

REV. ISAAC H. REITER, D. D.

I. H. Reiter was one of three brothers in the ministry of the Reformed Church whose middle initial was "H"; I. H., D. H., and C. H. Reiter. His ancestors, who came to America in 1752 from the Palatinate were of Reformed stock as far back as 1700.

Isaac H. Reiter, the son of of William and Susanna Reiter, was born on his father's farm in Amity Township, Berks County, Pa., February 4, 1819. He was baptized in infancy in Amity Church by Rev. L. F. Herman.

In 1831 his family came to the neighborhood of Wooster, Ohio. He was reared on his father's farm in Ohio and at the age of twenty-two (January 12, 1842), after having been adequately prepared, was confirmed in the Reformed Church at Smithville, Ohio, by the pastor, Rev. Adam Stump. From that time on his mind was definitely fixed on becoming a minister, but the way did not open for several years afterwards. In the meantime he turned his attention to whatever employment was available in various occupations. In 1846 and 1847 he was agent for the Messenger and the Christliche Zeitschrift, canvassing for subscriptions. During the years 1850 and 1851 he held a clerkship on the railroad; also he spent several years teaching school. His education to this time was what he was able to ac-

quire from the public schools and private reading, to which he diligently applied himself.

His formal preparatory education for the ministry was secured from Heidelberg College and Theological Seminary, in which institutions he spent three years, entering in November, 1851, graduating June 28, 1854. On November 14, 1854, he was licensed by Miami Classis and on the next day was ordained by the same Classis, through a committee consisting of Revs. T. H. Winters, Jesse Steiner, P. C. Prugh and R. P. Thomas, and installed as pastor of the Miamisburg, Ohio, Charge, consisting at that time of congregations at Miamisburg, Farmersville, St. John's and Salem at Springboro.

During his pastorate the Charge was divided into three. At the end of Dr. Reiter's pastorate in 1874, he was serving only the Miamisburg congregation. Two tangible witnesses of his faithfulness as a pastor were new church buildings at Miamisburg and Springboro.

The Miamisburg Charge was his only pastorate. He resigned in 1874 and from then on engaged in general church work, preaching only occasionally. At the organization of the General Synod in 1863, Dr. Reiter was elected its Stated Clerk and served in that position until his death. He was Stated Clerk of the Ohio Synod from 1870 until 1895, and for some years was Stated Clerk of Miami Classis. He was a member of the Board of Regents of Heidelberg University from 1860 until 1895, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Heidelberg Theological Seminary from 1868 until 1895. From 1873 to 1882 he was editor of the Literary Department of the Heidelberg Teacher and Instructor, and Editor of the Christian World from 1880 until 1882. From 1867 until 1891 he was President of the Board of Education in the school system of

Miamisburg.

Dr. Reiter's literary productions were many and varied. He was one of the rare people in the world who are interested in historical statistics, his interest in this subject developed, no doubt, from his work as Stated Clerk of Classis, Synod, and General Synod. His knowledge of the history of the Reformed Church in Ohio and the Western States earned for him the justly deserved title, "Historian of the Reformed Church in the West". A partial list of his literary work follows: "Manual of Laws and Regulations for the Government of the Board and Schools"; "History of the Schools of Miamisburg from 1820 to 1883"; "List of Ministers of the Reformed Church in 1862" (probably prepared in preparation for the first meeting of the General Synod a year later); "Old Ministers, Statistics and History" (published, 1865). Besides this, he furnished a great deal of material for the series, "Fathers of the Reformed Church". His last contribution to the Messenger was "A Review of Dr. Gerhart's Institutes of the Christian Religion", 1895.

On September 24, 1857, Dr. Reiter was married to Miss Margaret J. Heilman of Bloomville, Ohio, Rev. Moses Kieffer being the officiating minister. Of this marriage, one son and two daughters were born.

In 1874, both Franklin and Marshall and Ursinus Colleges conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. He received the degree of Master of Arts from Heidelberg College in 1866.

Dr. Reiter died at his home in Miamisburg, November 8, 1895, at the age of seventy-six. At the meeting of Ohio Synod he had caught a cold. This developed into congestion of the lungs which caused his death.

At the funeral services in the church at Miamisburg on November 11, Rev. Dr. W. A. Hale was in charge. Rev. J. A. Peters preached the sermon and Rev. M. Loucks delivered a biographical address; thus carrying out the funeral arrangements which had been made some time previously by Dr. Reiter himself. He was survived by his widow, one son and two daughters; also by one brother, Rev. D. H. Reiter, a minister of the Reformed Church. His other ministerial brother, Rev. C. H. Reiter, died in 1891.

References: Messenger; November 14, 1895

November 21, 1895

Miamisburg Newspaper

Christian World

REV. HERMAN BIELEFELD (BIELEFELD)

Herman Bielefeld was born at Bremen, Germany, September 4, 1815. Having been left an orphan at an early age he was reared in an Orphans' Home in Bremen. In spite, however, of his lack of care and parental interest, he seems to have received very superior educational training. As a youth he was a student at the Mission House at Chrischone for three years. After reaching maturity and having received a good education, he was regarded as able to teach and so served in that capacity in a school at Elberfeld for three and one-half years.

In 1848 he came to America and seems to have entered immediately as a student in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, where he spent almost two years. Upon his graduation from the Seminary, he entered in the latter part of 1849 upon pastoral service in the Reformed Church at Buffalo, N. Y. The next year, May 5, 1850, he was ordained in the Forsyth Street Reformed Church in New York

City. He resigned the Buffalo Charge in 1853 to accept a Call to the Reformed Church at Rochester, N. Y., where he served a short pastorate of about a year (1853 to the early part of 1854). He served a congregation in Harlem, N. Y., from May, 1854, to 1855. In that year he was dismissed to the Presbyterian Church, in which denomination he spent ten years (1855 - 1865), serving as pastor during that period at Clarence, N. Y., and at Newark, N. J.

In 1865 he was received back into the Reformed Church by Clarion Classis to serve a pastorate of one year in the Luthersburg (Troutville), Pa., Charge. In 1866 he was dismissed again to the Presbyterian Church and was pastor at Eden Corner, N. Y. from 1866 until 1868. In 1868 he returned again to the Reformed Church to serve, first at Preston, Canada (1868 - 1872); then to Zwingli Reformed Church at Harrisburg, Pa. (1872 - 1873).

On January 1, 1873, he entered his last pastorate in the St. John's (German) Reformed Church at Frederick, Md., where he remained in active service until his death, a period of almost twenty-three years. Mr. Bielefeld died at his home in Frederick, November 26, 1895, at the age of eighty.

At the funeral services on November 29, Rev. Marcus Bachman preached in German, and Rev. E. R. Eschbach in English. Rev. Paul Wienand delivered a biographical address. He was buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Frederick. Fifteen ministers of the Reformed and other denominations attended the funeral services. Six ministers served as pall-bearers.

In 1851, Mr. Bielefeld was married to Miss Fredricka Augusta Piele, of Schusselberg, Westphalia, Germany. He was survived by his widow and five children.

References: Messenger; December 5, 1895

January 2, 1896

Seminary Register

REV. HORATIO DANIEL *

Horatio Daniel had a most unusual career as a minister of the Reformed Church. It would be difficult to analyze his disposition, due to the very incongruous incidents which were part of the life of that unique man. He has been called "the bad boy" of the ministry. This title came not from any taint on his moral character, which was absolutely above reproach. But he was not willing to be amenable to church law or custom. He seemed to be guided largely by impulses which led him into embarrassing and even distressing situations, which undoubtedly robbed him of a fine reputation for scholarship that he might have had among his colleagues.

On the other hand he was a most faithful pastor and friend. As a scholar and writer, he was no less than brilliant, judging from the many articles from his pen on a multitude of subjects, which appeared in the public press, especially the Messenger. From 1871 to 1877 he contributed to the columns of the Messenger no less than one hundred and twenty-five articles; all of which attest his sane and good common-sense thinking.

Horatio Daniel was the son of Adam and Catherine Daniel, and

* Note: He is called Horace Daniel or Harris Daniel in some of the references encountered. The correct name is "Horatio" Daniel.

was born in Lower Nazareth Township, Northampton County, Pa., October 21, 1821. His parents were members of one of the congregations served by Rev. Thomas Pomp, by whom he was baptized, December 13, 1821, and confirmed in the Dryland Church, October 3, 1843.

After having graduated from the Nazareth, Pa., High School he began his theological education in 1844 under the supervision of Rev. J. C. Becker. He was licensed by East Pennsylvania Classis in 1845.

Now ensued a period which demonstrates our statement to the effect that he was disinclined to follow the custom or to hold himself in obedience to the law of the Synod and the Church.

Almost immediately after his licensure and before being ordained, he connected himself with the illegal and schismatic Stiehly Synod. He was probably ordained by that Synod and served congregations in its connection for more than a decade. We can find no information concerning him or of his activities from 1848 until 1858.

After he had joined the outlaw Synod, he was admonished by East Pennsylvania Classis to sever his connection with it and place himself under the care of the Classis which had licensed him; to all of which he paid no attention. Hence, at its annual meeting in 1848 the Classis erased him.

In 1858 after the collapse of the Stiehly Synod, he applied to the East Pennsylvania Classis for re-instatement. He was kindly received and re-instated, but as a licentiate.

In August of that same year he received and accepted a Call to become pastor of the Liberty Valley Charge in West Susquehanna Classis, whereupon he was regularly ordained and installed by a committee consisting of Revs. B. Bausman, F. J. Mohr and Henry Wiegand.

After a service of five years in the Liberty Valley Charge he resigned to accept a Call to the Red Bank, Pa., Charge, where he was

pastor from January 1, 1864, until November of the same year. He then served the Freeport, Ill., Charge until May, 1865, when he became pastor of the Carrollton, Ohio, Charge. In July, 1868, he took charge of the Neriah, Mich., Mission. From July, 1868, until August, 1871, he had served two pastorates at Neriah and at Fostoria, Ohio. He then moved to the Augusta Charge, near Sunburg, Pa., where he remained until June, 1873. He was next in the Liverpool, Pa., Charge from June until October, 1873, when he became pastor of the Hamilton Charge, Sciota, Pa.. He served here until May, 1877, when he retired from the active ministry to reside at Nazareth, Pa.

Mr. Daniel died at Washington, N. J., of paralysis, December 5, 1895, at the age of seventy-four. His last years were filled with suffering and sorrow.

Funeral services on December 8, were held in St. John's Church at Nazareth, in charge of Rev. W. H. Wotring, who preached a German sermon from the text: Prophecy of Isaiah, Chapter 12, Verse 2. Rev. J. E. Smith preached an English sermon. In attendance were a number of ministers of the Reformed Church and other denominations.

Reference has already been made to Mr. Daniel's literary activities. In addition to his articles in the Messenger, among which the most prominent were a series on "Backsliding", Mr. Daniel published in 1869 a volume under the title "Doctrine on Christian Believers", *and a volume "Per Foster" (1878)*. Mr. Daniel was twice married. On September 3, 1846, he was married to Miss Margaret T. Andreas, who died in March, 1875, in her forty-seventh year. In November, 1875, he was married to Miss Lydia Williams, Rev. G. W. Roth being the officiating minister. His second wife died in January, 1894, after an illness of two years. During the last two years of his second wife's life, the Daniel home was one of keen physical distress. Both Mr. and Mrs. Daniel were practically helpless and suffered greatly from lack of attention and

nursing care.

Mr. Daniel was survived by six children.

References: Messenger; December 19, 1895

Messenger; Various References, 1845 O 1895

1896

REV. MILTON H. GROH

M. H. Groh was born at Myerstown, Pa., December 19, 1853. We know nothing of his parentage, his rearing or his education until he entered Ursinus College. He spent several years as a student in the College and in the Ursinus School of Theology, graduating from the latter institution in 1875. Since this date is only a few years after the establishment of Ursinus College, Mr. Groh was probably one of its earliest graduates in theology. We have no knowledge of his licensure or ordination, but his first pastorate was at Wooster, Ohio, 1875 - 1876. The remainder of his career as a minister is comprehended in the following list of pastorates: Manchester, Ohio, 1876 - 1878; New Lisbon, Ohio, 1878 - 1882; Landisburg, Pa., 1882 - 1886. He then went West for the benefit of his health. For the last six years of his life, he was traveling solicitor for the Columbus (Ohio) "Record". He was about to re-enter the active ministry when death overtook him.

Mr. Groh died at the Ohio Medical University Hospital, to which he had gone for an operation for hernia. The date of his death was January 12, 1896, at the age of forty-two.

The funeral services on January 19 were in charge of Rev. J. J. Grether, who preached the sermon. He was buried in St. Jacob's Cemetery at Leetonia, Ohio.

Reference: Messenger; February 20, 1896

REV. CHARLES GUTZLAFF FISHER, D. D.

Charles G. Fisher, only son of Rev. Dr. S. ^{A.} ~~G.~~ Fisher, editor of the Messenger for about thirty-five years, was born at Emmitsburg, Md., while his father was pastor of the Emmitsburg Charge, December 28, 1837. His mother's maiden name was Catherine May.

The Fishers, father and son, guided the affairs of the Publication Board, including editing and managing the Messenger, for almost half a century. While Charles was yet an infant, his father moved in 1839 to Chambersburg, Pa., in connection with the publication interests of the Church, hence his early education was acquired in that city, first at the public school, and then in preparation for college at the Chambersburg Academy. He entered the Sophomore Class at Franklin and Marshall College in 1855, graduating in 1858.

He then turned his attention to teaching. He was principal of the Mifflinburg Academy for not quite a year, September, 1858, to April, 1859; then taught at the Chambersburg Academy for April to June in 1859. For two years he was principal of the Mt. Dempsy Academy at Landisburg, Pa., 1859 - 1861. In the fall of 1861 he became a teacher, and within a few months principal of the Parsonage School at Ellicott City, Md. In the fall of 1862 he became assistant in the Hill Family School at Pottstown, Pa., but resigned that position in April, 1863, to enter the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg.

With S. S. Miller, also a student in the Seminary as partner, Mr. Fisher reorganized and became co-principal of the Marshall Collegiate Institute at Mercersburg. This action was most important as regards the history of the educational interests of the Reformed Church, in that it served to occupy the Seminary buildings, which had been abandoned by Marshall College in 1853, with preparatory students; also to lay the foundation for the establishment of

Mercersburg College, which succeeded the Marshall Collegiate Institute when Fisher and Miller graduated from the Seminary in 1865.

Mr. Fisher was licensed by Mercersburg Classis in 1865 and ordained by the same Classis in August, 1866, when he became pastor of the Grindstone Hill Charge, near Chambersburg. After about a year and a half he resigned the Grindstone Hill Charge to become pastor of Boehm's Church at Blue Bell, Pa. His coming to that Church was the more interesting because this was the Church that his father attended as a boy and in which he was confirmed when the father's parents resided in the vicinity of Norristown. During Mr. Fisher's pastorate at Boehm's Church of a little more than five years (1868 - 1873), the church was remodelled and rededicated on September 25, 1870.

In December, 1873, he became pastor of Centenary Church at Winchester, Va., and of other congregations in the vicinity, attached to the Winchester Charge. This was the happiest pastorate of Mr. Fisher's career and he left it reluctantly in 1880, and only because he was greatly constrained by a sense of duty toward his father. As is well-known, Rev. S. R. Fisher resigned as editor of the Messenger in 1875, but remained as Superintendent and Treasurer of the Publication Board. Five years later, when approaching age and failing health made some relief from the heavy duties of his office necessary, Dr. Fisher turned to his son for assistance. Accordingly Rev. C. G. Fisher resigned the Winchester Charge and moved to Philadelphia to be his father's assistant in the office of the Publication Board at 907 Arch Street. At his father's death in 1881, Mr. Fisher succeeded him as Superintendent and Treasurer of the Publication Board. He held this position until January 1, 1888.

When Rev. P. Seibert Davis resigned as editor of the Messenger at the close of 1887, Mr. Fisher made a proposal to the Board to the effect that the Board should transfer to him all its assets and property, including the real estate on Arch Street, but excepting the stereotype plates and certain publishing rights; all this in liquidation of a debt which the Board owed to him and to his father. The Board accepted the offer; hence, on January 1, 1888, Mr. Fisher assumed the editorship of the Messenger and management of the business affairs of the Publication Board, which he conducted as a private enterprise, the contract to remain in effect for a period of ten years. Mr. Fisher was, therefore, editor of the Messenger until his death.

Mr. Fisher also held a number of other important positions in the Church, besides those already mentioned. From 1881 he was a member of the Board of Education of the Reformed Church, a member of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary from 1883, and an original member of the Board of Directors of the Daniel Stine Memorial Home at Myerstown. At the time of his death, he was chairman of the Executive Committee of the Franklin and Marshall College Alumni Association and a member of the Pennsylvania German Society.

Mr. Fisher died suddenly at his home in Philadelphia, just after he had sat down to his noon-day meal, February 25, 1896, at the age of fifty-eight.

The funeral services were held at his home on February 28, in charge of Revs. C. J. Musser, John H. Sechler, Henry T. Spangler and Dr. Milliken of the Reformed Church in America. Addresses were delivered by Revs. E. V. Gerhart, James Crawford, J. D. Miller, and D. E. Klopp. Thirty-four ministers of the Reformed Church and seven of other denominations attended the funeral. His body was

placed temporarily in a vault in the Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia, and later taken to Johnstown, Pa., for permanent interment.

Mr. Fisher was married on October 2, 1867, to Miss Margaret S. Hay. His widow and four children survived him. In 1890, Franklin and Marshall College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

References: Messenger; February 27, 1896

March 5, 1896

March 12, 1896

March 19, 1896

March 26, 1896

Obituary Record of Franklin and Marshall College
Seminary Register

REV. NICOLAUS GEHR, D. D.

N. Gehr was born at Botzheim, Germany, May 14, 1817. His father died when he was sixteen years of age. Soon afterwards he emigrated to America with a French colony and settled in Wayne County, Ohio, which at that time was still inhabited by Indians. As a youth and young man he occupied his time in clearing the land and in farming, at the same time doing much reading. He spent some time in teaching a school.

He was converted during a great religious revival and joined the Evangelical Association. He then became a local and itinerant preacher, then after several years, was regularly ordained and served pastorates in Wayne County and in Canton, Ohio. In 1844 he became pastor of an Evangelical Church in Cleveland, in 1845 in Milwaukee, and in Cleveland again in 1847.

In that year (1847) he was made editor of the "Christliche Botschafter", an Evangelical Church publication, which appointment pleased him very much. Because the place of publication was at New Berlin, Pa., he moved to that place, but later went back to Cleveland.

In 1849 he was received into the Reformed Church from the Evangelical Association and licensed in April of that year by Mercersburg Classis. In 1849 he was ordained by Mercersburg Classis and installed as pastor of the St. Thomas, Pa., Charge. Soon afterwards he began service as assistant editor of the "Christliche Zeitschrift", a German paper of the Reformed Church, published at Chambersburg. In March, 1851, he was elected editor of the Reformirte Kirchenzeitung" (the successor of the Zeitschrift).

He resigned this position in April, 1853, to become pastor of the Akron, Ohio, Charge. He served this Charge for only one year, then went to Philadelphia as pastor of Zion's German Reformed Church. He was pastor of this church for almost thirty-three years, his service here ending with his resignation on account of ill-health in November, 1886. In September, 1879, he celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his pastorate in Zion's Church. In 1864 he was again elected editor of the "Reformirte Kirchenzeitung", which position he held in connection with his pastorate until the place of publication was moved to Cleveland.

Mr. Gehr spent the last years of his life in retirement, but not in idleness. In 1885 he became editor of the "Missionsbote". As late as 1895 he served for a short time as temporary pastor of St. Paul's (German) Church at Baltimore, Md.

Franklin and Marshall and Ursinus Colleges in the same year conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. His wife died in 1885. We have no record of the date of his mar-

riage or of any survivors.

Dr. Gehr's literary work was extensive. He was editor of the German Sunday School Hymn-book, published in 1876; he translated the Directory of Worship into the German language; he was the author of "A Companion for Catecheumens" and "Of the Blessings of Christ", completed on his death-bed. One of his last literary productions was an elaborate review of Dr. Gerhart's "Institutes of the Christian Religion".

For twenty-three years Dr. Gehr was a member of the Board of Home Missions of the German Synod of the East, and for most of the time, its president. He was also for some years a member of the Board of Foreign Missions. In 1857 and again in 1869, Dr. Gehr paid visits to Europe.

Dr. Gehr died at his home in Philadelphia, after an illness of two months, on March 3, 1896, at the age of seventy-eight.

Brief funeral services were held at the home on March 6, in charge of Revs. M. Bachman, W. R. Hoffard and Dr. Gally of the Presbyterian Church. Further services were held in St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia, in charge of Rev. P. H. Dippell, assisted by Revs. W. M. Dumstrey, J. B. Forster, Philip Vollmer, C. H. Coon and L. K. Derr. Revs. F. W. Berleman and B. Bausman delivered sermons. Thirty-two ministers attended the funeral. Interment was made in Mt. Vernon Cemetery in Philadelphia.

A memorial service was held in Zion's Church on March 15.

Reference: Messenger; March 12, 1896

REV. HARRISON HENRY WILLIAM HIBSCHMAN, D. D.

At the very beginning of Mr. Hibschan's biography, we encounter a variation in the sources. The Seminary Register gives his birthplace as Lancaster, and the date, September 13, 1837. The Franklin and Marshall Obituary Record says that he was born at Schaefferstown, Pa., on November 25, 1837. He was the son of the Hon. Allen Porter Hibschan and his wife, Hannah (Wike) Hibschan. His father was a surveyor and conveyancer.

H. H. W. Hibschan was baptized in infancy by Rev. T. H. Leinbach, pastor of the Tulpehocken Charge, which at that time included the Schaefferstown congregation. This leads us to accept the probability that he was born at Schaefferstown rather than at Lancaster.

As a boy he assisted his father. Before he was grown his parents moved to Durloch in Lancaster County. Here he grew up, attending the public schools and having the advantage of a private tutor in his preparation for college. He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in 1861. In the fall of that year, he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1863. Immediately after graduation from the Seminary, he served in the army as a private for six months.

He was licensed by Lancaster Classis in the latter part of 1863 and ordained in the same year by Westmoreland Classis as pastor of the Jenner's Cross-Roads, Pa., Charge. He served here for about two years, then was called in 1865 to a Mission Charge at Shamokin, Pa. During his pastorate of two years at Shamokin he organized the Salem (Second) congregation in that city. From August, 1867 to 1869 he was pastor of St. Luke's Church at Trappe, Pa. While at Trappe he was much interested in and took part in the establishment of Ursinus College at Collegeville. He was a member of the Board of

Trustees of Ursinus College for twenty-one years.

In 1869 he became pastor of the Waynesboro, Pa., Charge, which he served until 1878, then in that year he accepted a Call to the Mt. Bethel Charge in Northampton County, Pa., consisting of four congregations. During his service here he organized a congregation at Bangor, Pa. At the close of his pastorate in 1883, the Mt. Bethel Charge was divided.

In 1883 Mr. Hibschan accepted the challenge of the Board of Home Missions to go to Tiffin, Ohio, for the purpose of organizing a second congregation in that city. He was successful in this venture, organizing Grace congregation and building a church and parsonage for the use of the congregation. After a service of ten years at Tiffin, Mr. Hibschan in August, 1893, became pastor of Zion's Church, Stroudsburg, Pa., which he served until his death.

Mr. Hibschan died suddenly of neuralgia of the heart at the residence of his son at Eschbach, Pa., April 11, 1896, at the age of sixty-eight. He was buried at Trappe on April 15.

Mr. Hibschan was married on April 14, 1864, to Miss Alice J. Clark of Lancaster. Mr. and Mrs. Hibschan were the parents of six sons and one daughter. Three of his sons, Revs. E. S., A. H., and H. E. Hibschan were ministers in the Reformed Church.

Mr. Hibschan filled several positions of trust in the Church. He was Chairman of the committee to revise the Constitution in 1890 and a member of the committee to publish a new church hymnal (1890), a member of the Board of Trustees of Ursinus College from 1869 until 1890; a member of the Board of Trustees of Heidelberg College, and for a time a Synodical editor of the Messenger. For a short period during his pastorate in Tiffin he was temporary teacher of Dogmatic Theology in the Heidelberg Theological Seminary. In 1894

he published a pamphlet, entitled "The Origin and Glory of the Reformed Church". In 1879 Ursinus College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

References: Messenger; April 16, 1896

April 23, 1896

May 7, 1896

May 21, 1896

Obituary Record of Franklin and Marshall College
Seminary Register

REV. JOHN G. NEUBER

J. G. Neuber was born early in the year of 1826 at Heiderode, Rotenberg-Hessen, Germany. We have no information regarding his education or his coming to America.

He was licensed and ordained by Philadelphia Classis in May, 1860. His first ministerial appointment was as Mission pastor at Glassboro, N. J., where he served for exactly two years, until June, 1862. He then became pastor of the Bethlehem (German) Reformed Church in Philadelphia, his pastorate here extending until his retirement in December, 1894. In January, 1894, he celebrated the thirty-third anniversary of his ordination and the thirty-second of his service in the Bethlehem Church.

He died in Philadelphia, April 21 (or 25, the sources differ), 1896.

References: Messenger; April 23, 1896

Deceased Ministers of the Reformed Church

REV. AARON SEIBERT LEINBACH, D. D.

Mr. Leinbach came from a family which for four generations has furnished men for the ministry of the Reformed Church. Among those in his immediate family connection were Rev. Thomas H. Leinbach, his father; Revs. Charles H., T. Calvin, and Samuel A., his brothers; Revs. James Calvin, Paul Seibert, Edwin S., Elmer G., Elmer E. G., Thomas H., Jr., and H. Jerome, his nephews; and Rev. Carl S., his great-nephew.

A. S. Leinbach, the son of Rev. Thomas H., Sr., and Elizabeth (Seibert) Leinbach, was born in Spring Township, Berks County, Pa., July 20, 1825, when his father was pastor of the Oley Charge. When he was about a year old his father became pastor of the Tulpehocken Charge in Lebanon County, a Charge served by three generations of Leinbachs. Here he attended the public school and then was a student in the Womelsdorf and Myerstown Academies in preparation for college. He entered Marshall College in 1842 and graduated in 1846. From 1846 to 1848 he was a student in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. Upon his graduation from the Seminary in 1848 he was licensed by Lebanon Classis (May 16, 1848) and ordained and installed a few days later as pastor of the Palmyra Charge in Lebanon County, Pa.. After only three months in his first Charge, he was called to become pastor of the First Reformed Church at Reading, Pa., together with other congregations in the vicinity.

From here on, it is rather difficult to keep track of his pastoral connections by Charges. The Seminary Register lists him as serving the First Reformed Church at Reading from 1848 to 1863, and the Schwarzwald Charge from 1864 to 1895. It might be illuminating to list the time of serving each congregation: Palmyra Charge, June 1848 to September, 1848; First Church, Reading, September 8, 1848 to March 8, 1863; Schwarzwald Congregation, July 1, 1855 to August 18, 1895; Immanuel's, Hamburg, Pa., April 24, 1864 to June

10, 1866; Shalter's Congregation, May 1, 1864 to August 4, 1895; St. John's, Robesonia, Pa., May 22, 1864 to June 29, 1873; St. Michael's, Upper Bern, August 7, 1864 to September 29, 1867; Mohrsville, Pa., Congregation, January 22, 1865 to January 23, 1881; Leesport, Pa., June 26, 1870 to January 23, 1881; Hinnershitz's Church, October 8, 1871 to August 4, 1895; Alsace Church, Reading, October 8, 1871 to July 28, 1895; Spies' Church, March 23, 1873 to August 11, 1895, Bern Church, July 25, 1875 to August 12, 1895.

He built the churches at Mohrsville, Leesport, Schwarzwald, Spies', and St. Thomas, Reading. He organized the St. Thomas Congregation in the northern part of Reading, on October 19, 1889, as a Mission.

When he retired in 1895, he held a farewell service in each church that he was serving at that time, services that were attended by throngs of people. A record of his pastoral activities follows: Baptisms, 7729; Confirmations, 3437; Marriages, 2829; Funerals, 4289. He was President of Lebanon Classis in 1867 and of the Eastern Synod in 1880. In 1887, Franklin and Marshall College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. Leinbach died at his home in Reading, June 22, 1896, at the age of seventy. Funeral services were held in St. Paul's Church, Reading on June 27. The pastor of St. Paul's, Dr. B. Bausman, preached the sermon. Assisting in the services were Revs. H. Mosser, J. H. Dubbs, S. A. Krebs. Six ministers served as pall-bearers. Altogether forty-one ministers of the Reformed and other denominations attended the services. He was buried in the Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading.

On January 8, 1850, Mr. Leinbach was married to Miss Eliza Amanda Schantz, who died August 13, 1867. Rev. and Mrs. Leinbach were the parents of six children; one of whom, the Rev. John Hiester Leinbach,

predeceased his father by one year.

On November 2, 1869, Mr. Leinbach was married a second time to Miss Ann Elizabeth Wetzel of Carlisle, Pa.

References: Messenger; July 2, 1896

July 9, 1896

Seminary Register

Franklin and Marshall Obituary Record

REV. FREDERICK PILGRAM

Frederick Pilgram, the son of William George and Christina (Drexel) Pilgram, was born at Hundelschausen, Hesse Cassel, Germany, December 24, 1837. His father died when he was about twelve or thirteen years old.

In 1851 his mother brought her family to America, settling in Philadelphia. He attended the public schools in Philadelphia and in 1856 entered the Allentown Seminary where he spent four years.

In 1860 he entered the Sophomore Classis in Franklin and Marshall College, graduating in 1863. In the fall of that year he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, taking the full course and graduating in 1866. In that same year he was licensed by Philadelphia Classis. Having presented a Call to the Shenango Charge at Greenville, Pa., he was dismissed to St. Paul's Classis, which judicatory ordained and installed him into the pastorate of the Shenango Charge, consisting of five congregations, in July, 1866.

In October, 1868, he resigned to accept a Call to the Columbia, Pa., Charge, which he served until December, 1872. He then returned to Greenville for a second pastorate in the Shenango Charge, extending from December, 1872, until 1887. He next served the Irwin, Pa., Charge, consisting of two congregations, from 1887 until January,

1890. At that time he accepted the position as agent for the Pittsburgh Synod in securing funds for the establishment of the Pittsburgh Synod Professorship in the Theological Seminary; also at the same time serving as supply-pastor of several congregations in Mercer County, Pa.; residing, however, during this time at Greenville. Having successfully completed his work for the Pittsburgh Synod in 1892, he became pastor of the Bethany Charge in Lancaster County, consisting of congregations at Brickerville, White Oak and the historic Bethany congregation, located several miles from Ephrata. During his pastorate the Bethany congregation purchased a church property in Ephrata, enlarged and remodeled it, and rededicated it as Bethany Church at Ephrata.

Mr. Pilgram was an accomplished musician, vocal and instrumental. He was a talented pianist and organist. During his college course he was the leader and instructor of a famous male quartette. He was always interested in all kinds of music.

Mr. Pilgram died in the Jefferson Medical College Hospital in Philadelphia, following an operation for a tumorous growth on his neck. His death occurred on July 5, 1896, at the age of fifty-eight.

Funeral services were held in Philadelphia in charge of Rev. James Crawford. The body was then taken to the church at Womelsdorf, Pa., where further services were held. Rev. D. W. Gerhard preached the sermon; Rev. I. W. Brobst, pastor of the Lutheran Church at Lititz delivered an address. Revs. J. P. Stein, C. L. Moench of the Moravian Church, and S. Schweitzer participated in the services. Altogether, fourteen ministers were present.

During his pastorate in the Bethany Charge, Mr. Pilgram resided at Lititz until Bethany congregation moved to Ephrata, after which he lived at Ephrata.

References: Messenger; July 16, 1896

July 23, 1896

Franklin and Marshall College Obituary Record
Seminary Register

REV. CARL SCHAAF, D. D.

It is difficult to present a fairly accurate record of the life and pastoral activities of Dr. Schaaf, both on account of the scarcity of reliable references, and to the disagreement between the references available.

He was born June 27, 1841. Whether he was born in Europe or was a native American, we do not know, nor have we any information regarding his education, licensure, ordination, or pastorates before 1876.

It is probably true that his services in the Sandusky, Ohio, Charge followed immediately upon his ordination, but there is no way of ascertaining how long he was at Sandusky until he resigned that Charge in May, 1876. In that year he became pastor of First (St. John's) Church at Fort Wayne, Ind. From this point on, the sources disagree. One account says that he served at Fort Wayne for eighteen years; that is, until the end of 1894; and then, beginning January, 1, 1895, served the Norwood, Ohio, Charge until his death. For a number of reasons that account cannot be true.

From a reliable contemporary source, we learn that he resigned St. John's Church in Fort Wayne in July, 1878, to accept a Call to the Bristol Charge, Marshallville, Ohio, which he served until November, 1880.

From 1880 until May, 1886, he was pastor of the Mt. Olivet Charge, North Lima, Ohio. In September, 1885, while he was at North Lima,

he declined a Call to the Waterloo, Ind., Charge. However, in May, 1886, he left North Lima to be Missionary Pastor in San Francisco, California. He remained here but a short time, for about 1887 (certainly not later than 1888), he had entered upon a second pastorate at St. John's Church at Fort Wayne, which he served as pastor until December, 1893. On January 1, 1894, he entered upon his last pastoral assignment in the Norwood, Ohio, Charge, which continued for only a year and three quarters.

Dr. Schaaf died at Norwood, September 11, 1896, after a long illness, at the age of fifty-five. The funeral services on September 13 were in charge of Rev. John Rettig, who preached the sermon. Revs. J. Kuelling. W. H. Lahr and J. H. Bosch assisted in the services. He was buried in Lindenwood Cemetery at Fort Wayne.

In 1880 Mission House College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. We have no record of his marriage or family.

References: Messenger; October 1, 1896

Deceased Ministers of the Reformed Church

REV. JOSEPH G. SHOEMAKER

J. G. Shoemaker was the oldest of three brothers in the ministry of the Reformed Church, and the second oldest in a family of fourteen children. He was the son of Philip and Christina Shoemaker, staunch members of the Reformed Church, and was born at Friends Cove, Bedford County, Pa., August 15, 1828. He was baptized in infancy by Rev. S. K. Denius, and confirmed in Trinity Church, Friends Cove, by Rev. Matthew Irvin on the fifth day of October, 1843.

His boyhood years were spent on his father's farm. Encouraged

by his paernts he early in life conceived the ~~idea~~^{idea} of entering the ministry, although the way, due probably to the poverty of his parents, did not appear for some years. Yet, however, his father furnished him, consistent with the parent's financial circumstances, with every opportunity to secure an education. At the age of sixteen, he began private study under the supervision of the Hon. John Cessna, and then spent a short time at Marshall College (probably in the Preparatory Department).

He then returned home to engage in teaching school for eight or nine years; also engaged in other occupations, such as chair-making and painting. In the meantime, he had married and become the father of a family.

In 1854 the opportunity came for him to enter the Theological Seminary, but even then his period of study was limited to one year. He moved his family to Mercersburg and appli-ed himself so diligently to the courses of study offered that in the fall of 1855, when he presented himself at the meeting of Synod in October of that year, he passed a creditable examination and was duly licensed by that Body.

On March 1, 1865, he moved to Currensville, Pa., to assume his duties as pastor of the Rimersburg Charge. On July 13, 1866 he was ordained and installed as regular pastor of that Charge, consisting of five congregations, which he served until 1874.

In 1859, under the direction of Clarion Classis, Mr. Shoemaker established the Clarion Collegiate Institute at Rimersburg. During that year he moved his residence to Rimersburg to serve as Principal of the new institution. He successfully conducted the affairs of the school in connection with his duties in a laborious pastorate, until he finally resigned as pastor and principal in 1874. During his residence at Rimersburg, a large building was erected for the

use of the school and to serve as a parsonage; also two new churches were built. The Clarion Institute continued to enjoy the patronage of the Church for a number of years after Mr. Shoemaker left, under the principalship of several able ministers, among whom perhaps the best-known was Rev. J. H. Apple, Sr.

Mr. Shoemaker, after the close of his pastorate at Rimersburg, was pastor of the St. John's, Pa., Mission for less than a year, (To March, 1875) and then became pastor of the Aaronsburg, Pa., Charge which he served until November 1, 1877. Then he went West to take charge of the new project at Emporia, Kansas and to serve as general missionary in the State of Kansas. The climate did not agree with him, however, in this location. In December, 1880, on account of a chronic plague of malaria, he was compelled to leave the low-level land of Kansas and to locate in a higher, more rolling area. He found a favorable location in the West Alexandria, Ohio, Charge, which he served from January 1, 1881, until January 1, 1885. He then came to the Red Bank, Pa., Charge in Pittsburgh Synod. However, this pastorate endured for less than a year, for in November of that year he was stricken with paralysis from which he never entirely recovered and which incapacitated him permanently from performing any ministerial labor. From November, 1885, until his death, he lived retired as an invalid. From the time of his retirement he evidently lived at Braddock, Pa., where he died October 20, 1896, at the age of sixty-eight.

Funeral services in the church at Braddock on October 23 were in charge of the pastor, Rev. A. K. Kline, who preached the sermon. Addresses were delivered by Revs. J. F. Snyder and J. M. Evans. Revs. J. J. Wagoner and D. A. Souders also assisted in the services. He was buried in the Monongahela Cemetery at Braddock.

References: Messenger; November 26, 1896

Seminary Register

Deceased Ministers of the Reformed Church

REV. OSWALD JOHN ACCOLA, D. D., LL. D.

O. J. Accola, the son of Oswald and Anna Accola, was born in Sebenico, Dalmatia, on the shores of the Adriatic Sea. His father was a native of Switzerland, his mother, Italian. Both his parents died of cholera before he was a year old. He was reared by his father's sister at Davos, Graubunden, Switzerland.

He was baptized March 7, 1836 and in due time was confirmed as a member of the Reformed Church. He came to America in 1850 and went to St. Louis, Mo., where he remained for some time. He studied at Heidelberg College and Seminary, graduating from the latter institution in 1860. He was licensed and ordained by St. Joseph Classis, October 13, 1860.

His first pastorate was at Defiance, Ohio, where he served for a year and a half. In the spring of 1862 he became pastor of the Ashford, Wisc., Charge. In 1865 he resigned the Ashford Charge to be a traveling missionary for six months, and then toward the end of that year, became pastor of the Freeport, Ill., Charge, which he served for a year and a half, until May, 1867. He was then called to the Second German Reformed Church at Dayton, Ohio. He resigned this pastorate in July, 1876, to accept a professorship in Calvin College at Cleveland, under the presidency of Rev. H. J. Reutenik. After a two year service as a teacher, he returned to the Second Church at Dayton for a second pastorate, extending from 1878 to 1886. In October, 1886, he became pastor of the New Philadelphia, Ohio, Charge, which he served for exactly four years.

In October, 1890, he took charge of the German Mission at

Chicago, Ill., which he served until 1894.

When he came to Chicago he entered a medical college in that city, graduating in 1894 with the degree of M. D. From 1894 he practiced medicine in Chicago until he was stricken with paralysis June 15, 1896. He died at his home in Chicago, November 17, 1896, a few days before his sixty-first birthday.

At the funeral services on November 20 in the Waveland Avenue Congregational Church in Chicago, Revs. J. Kuelling and Heinaman preached German sermons. He was buried in Graceland Cemetery in Chicago. In 1889 Mr. Accola received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Franklin and Marshall College.

During his pastorate at Ashford, Wisc., (between 1862 and 1865) he was married to Miss Joanna Elizabeth Sheurman. To this marriage eleven children were born. He was survived by his widow, three sons and four daughters. One of his sons, Rev. Oswald E. Accola, was a minister of the Reformed Church (Died 1894).

Reference: Messenger; December 10, 1896

REV. DANIEL J. GREENAWALD

D. J. Greenawald was born in Lehigh County, Pa., in 1854. He was baptized in infancy and confirmed in youth as a member of the Reformed Church.

He prepared for the ministry at Heidelberg College and Seminary from which he was graduated in 1878. He was licensed by Tiffin Classis in June, 1878, and ordained later in that same year as pastor in Brown County, Kansas, Charge, consisting of congregations at Fairview, Rattlesnake, and Grand Prairie. This was his first and only pastoral Charge for after a pastorate of nearly eight years he was compelled to resign on account of an affection of the throat.

He then turned his attention to secular employment. He was elected for two terms as Clerk of the Circuit Court of Mitchell County, Kansas; also he was for a time in the merchandising business.

In the spring of 1896, he moved to Kansas City, Kansas, and later in the year to Bonner Springs, Kansas, where he died November 9, 1896, at the age of forty-two. He was buried at Bonner Springs.

References: Messenger; July 7, 1878

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. LOUIS PRAIKSCHATIS, D. D.

Louis Praikschatis was born in the village of Strausberg, Germany, about twenty-one miles from Berlin, September 20, 1836. His father died before the son's birth. In 1865 he came into the Rhine country in Wisconsin and placed himself under the care of several ministers from whom he received instruction in preparation for the ministry. His higher education was received in the Mission House College and Seminary at Sheboygan, Wisc., from which he was graduated in 1863.

He was ordained April 15, 1864, and installed pastor of the Town Rhine, Wisc., Charge, which he served until 1867. He was pastor of the Watertown, Wisc., Charge from 1867 until August, 1872. Then he accepted a Call to the Terre Haute, Ind., Charge, which he served for more than eight years. In December, 1880, he became editor of the "Reformirte Kirchenzeitung", published at Cleveland. He continued in this position until his death.

Mr. Praikschatis died at his home in Cleveland, December 7, 1896, at the age of sixty. Funeral services were held at Cleveland on December 10, with interment at Cleveland.

In 1888, Mr. Praikschatz received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Ursinus College.

References: Messenger; December 10, 1896

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. JOEL W. ALSPACH

J. W. Alspach was born in Perry County, Ohio, September 14, 1835. He was baptized in infancy and confirmed at the age of seventeen in the Reformed Church at Thornville, Ohio, by Rev. F. W. Dechant. His education was secured in the vicinity of his home until he entered Heidelberg College about 1857. After three years in college, he entered the Theological Seminary at Tiffin, graduating in 1862.

In April of the year 1862 he was licensed by Lancaster (Ohio) Classis and commissioned a missionary to the Appleton Charge in Licking County, Ohio. In about two years a serious throat trouble, which interfered with his preaching, brought about his resignation. Then for four years (1864 - 1868) he taught school.

In 1868 he became pastor of the Stoutsville, Ohio, Charge, which he served until August, 1872. He was next called to the Shanksville, Pa., Charge, where his pastorate extended until January, 1875. Then from 1875 to March, 1879, he served the Sugar Creek Charge in Butler County, Pa.. From 1879 until January 1, 1887, he was pastor of the Fairview Charge, Baldwin, Butler County, Pa..

On January 1, 1887, he became pastor of the Everett, Pa., Charge, which he served for four years. In 1891 he entered upon the pastoral relation in the Altamont, Ill., Charge, which continued until his death, December 5, 1896, at the age of sixty-one.

On March 13, 1862, he was married to Miss Sarah Jane Binkley, who died October 17, 1890. To this marriage eight children were born, all of whom survived their parents.

Mr. Alspach was married a second time to Miss Mary M. Gross, who survived him.

Reference: Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. EDWIN T. WOEHLER

Mr. Woehler was born at Empelde, Hanover, Germany, November 7, 1816. His father died when the son was five years old. He entered the public school at the age of six and by the time he was sixteen, he was made an assistant teacher. Soon afterwards he entered the Seminary at Petershagen where, also, in connection with his duties as a student, he was principal of the Preparatory Department. A few years later, the Countess of Wiedersheim made him teacher of the schools under her patronage.

He was married in 1844 and in 1851 he and his wife came to America, settling at Summit Hill, Ohio, near Akron. He was ordained by St. Joseph Classis, probably in 1851 or 1852 and served congregations at Homer, Parisburg, Jackson, Orange, all in Ohio, and in the surrounding country. In 1863 he became pastor of the Medina, Wisc., Charge; also serving congregations at Appleton, Freedom, Menasha and vicinity.

Several years before his death he retired from the active ministry on account of ill-health, residing at Appleton and Green Bay, Wisc. He died at Green Bay, April 9, 1896, at the age of seventy-nine. His widow and eleven children survived him.

Reference: Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. WILLIAM G. ENGLE (ENGEL)

W. G. Engle, oldest son of Solomon K. and Catherine (Gottschall) Engle, was born at New Berlinville, less than a mile from Boyertown, Pa., April 16, 1833. His mother died when he was sixteen months old and he was reared by his maternal grand-parents. He was baptized by Rev. Herman and at the age of sixteen was confirmed by Rev. Augustus L. Dechant.

As a youth he learned the trade of coach-making. In 1852 he was in attendance at the Mt. Pleasant Academy at Boyertown. Also, for several terms he was a student in the Union Seminary at New Berlin, Pa. After graduating from the Union Seminary he taught in a public school and in a select school for several years. He was graduated from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1862. In that same year he was licensed and ordained by Goshenhoppen Classis.

His first pastoral assignment was as assistant to Rev. R. A. Van Court in the Swamp Charge (Hill Church) near Boyertown, which position he filled from 1862 until 1864.

From 1864 he was pastor of the Red Bank, Pa., Charge in Clarion Classis for four years, and then accepted a Call to the Rebersburg Charge, which he served from 1868 until 1872.

In 1872 he became pastor of the Uniontown Charge, Pillow, Dauphin County, Pa. This pastorate continued until 1889, when he accepted a Call to the Immanuel (Whitehall) Charge, Jerseytown, Pa. In 1892 he became pastor of the Deep Creek Charge, Hegins, Pa., but his stay here was brief. Late in that year he suffered a stroke of paralysis, which ended his pastoral career. He retired to Williamsport, Pa., where he continued to reside until his death, February 2, 1897, at the age of sixty-three.

Preliminary funeral services were held at his home in William-s-

port in the evening of February 5. On the next day, further funeral services were held in the Reformed Church at Boyertown, in charge of Rev. J. E. Freeman. In accordance with the request of the deceased, Rev. T. J. Hacker preached the sermon. Six other ministers of the Reformed Church assisted in the services and served as pall-bearers. He was buried at Boyertown.

On May 24, 1859, Mr. Engle was married to Miss Annie C. Herlacher of New Berlin, Pa. He was survived by his widow and six children.

References: Messenger; February 11, 1897

February 18, 1897

Seminary Register

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. LEVI CONRAD SHEIP

L. C. Sheip, equally distinguished as a pastor and as a school administrator, was the son of John Sheip and was born in New Britain Township, Bucks County, Pa., December 30, 1833. His family was of Swiss descent, the original founder in America having emigrated from Switzerland in the early part of the eighteenth century.

As a very young man he studied at the Union Academy in Doylestown, and then was a teacher for several years. He then entered the Frederick Institute in Montgomery County to prepare for college. He became a member of the Sophomore Class in Franklin and Marshall College in 1858, graduating from the College in 1861. In that year he opened a boys' school in Temperance Hall in Doylestown, but closed it in less than a year to enter the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. After graduating from the Theological Seminary in 1863, he returned to Doylestown and re-opened the school.

He was licensed by Goshenhoppen Classis in 1864 and received a

Call from the Riegelsville Charge, but preferred to remain in the school and thus declined it. At this time the school was enjoying unusual prosperity, employing nine teachers and having an enrollment of more than a hundred pupils.

However, in 1865, having received a Call from the Bloomsburg, Pa., Charge, he accepted it. He was then ordained by Goshenhoppen Classis and entered upon his pastorate at Bloomsburg, where he served for two years. In 1867 he resigned to become Principal of a private school in West Philadelphia, where he remained for one year.

On December 1, 1868 he became pastor of Salem Church at Doylestown and served it until his death.

But his enthusiasm for teaching had not abated. He was no sooner settled in his new pastorate than he opened a school for girls in the Masonic Hall in Doylestown, the administrative work of this school to be performed in addition to his pastoral duties. This venture proved so successful that, with Prof. H. W. Hough as a partner, he erected in 1871 the Linden Female Seminary in Doylestown. The Seminary opened in the spring of 1872 and continued in operation until 1879 when Mr. Sheip became principal of the Borough Schools. He served in this position until 1890, continuing all this time as pastor of Salem Church. In 1885 Mr. Sheip traveled extensively in Europe, and on his return, lectured many times on European places and customs.

Mr. Sheip was found dead in his apartment at Doylestown on the morning of February 18, 1897. The cause of his death was heart failure.

Funeral services were held in the Presbyterian Church at Doylestown on February 22. Rev. J. S. Stahr preached the sermon. Addresses were delivered by Revs. Seiple, Ferner, Musser and the pastor of the

Lutheran Church. Revs. J. J. Rothrock, A. B. Koplin and J. G. Dengler assisted in the services. Altogether, twenty ministers attended the funeral services. He was buried at Doylestown.

At the time of Mr. Sheip's death, Salem congregation was erecting a new church. The Sunday School building was to have been dedicated on the day of his funeral. Mr. Sheip was never married.

References: Messenger; February 25, 1897

Seminary Register

Obituary Record of F. & M. College

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. CALVIN U. O. DERR

C. U. O. Derr was the son of Rev. Calvin Derr of Reading, and was born at Tamaqua, Pa., December 30, 1863.

Mr. Derr was a student in the public and high schools of Slatington, Pa. In 1881 he came with his parents to Reading. In 1884 he entered Ursinus College, graduating in 1888. He then became a student at Yale Divinity School, graduating in 1891. In June, 1891, he was ordained pastor of the Spring City, Pa., Charge. This was his only pastoral Charge.

He died at Spring City, March 18, 1897, at the age of thirty-three. The immediate cause of his death was quinsy, from which he had suffered for only a brief time. Funeral services were held at the home of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Kelly, in Spring City, on March 16. Addresses were delivered by Revs. J. H. Sechler and J. I. Good. Revs. J. A. Mertz, C. J. Musser and Rev. Mackintosh of the Lutheran Church assisted in the services. Twenty-six ministers attended the funeral. He was buried in the East Vincent Cemetery.

References: Messenger; March 18, 1897

March 25, 1897

March 25, 1897

Seminary Register

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. DANIEL WEITZEL ALBRIGHT

Mr. Albright was born at Reading, Pa., November 30 (one source gives the date as October 30), 1861. He was the son of Henry M. and Mary Jane (Weitzel) Albright. His father died when the son was five years old, and the only son was tenderly reared by his mother. He was confirmed as a member of St. Paul's Church at Reading by Dr. Bausman.

He was graduated from the Reading High School in 1880 and then spent three years in Palatinate College at Myerstown. In 1883 he was enrolled in the Sophomore Class at Franklin and Marshall College, graduating in 1886. From 1886 to 1887 he was at home in Reading. He entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1887, graduating in 1890. He was licensed by Schuylkill Classis in 1890 and on November 2 of that year was ordained by a committee of Lancaster Classis, consisting of Revs. E. V. Gerhart, J. S. Stahr and J. H. Dubbs, and installed as pastor of St. Paul's Church at Manheim and other congregations in the vicinity.

In January 1893 his health began to fail, so he resigned his pastorate and returned to Reading to make his home with his mother. For a while he supplied St. Andrew's Church at Reading.

On January 25, 1895 he was installed as pastor of Olivet Church at Riverside, Reading. He served this congregation until his death on March 20, 1897, at the age of thirty-five. The cause of his death was grippe, developing into congestion of the lungs.

Funeral Services were held in St. Paul's Church, Reading on

March 25. Dr. Bausman preached the sermon. Revs. H. Mosser, S. R. Breidenbaugh and C. S. Gerhard assisted in the services. Thirty-four ministers attended the funeral, of whom eight served as pall-bearers. Interment was in the Charles Evans Cemetery at Reading. He was survived by his mother. Mr. Albright was never married.

References: Messenger; March 25, 1897

April 1, 1897

Seminary Register

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

Obituary Record of F. & M. College

REV. GEORGE ECKERT ADDAMS

G. E. Addams was born near Leesport, Pa., April 12, 1822. His early life was spent on a farm. In due time he was confirmed in the old German church near Leesport.

He spent several years in different academies and then entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1857, graduating in 1859. In October of that year he was licensed by the Synod and assigned to Mercersburg Classis.

He was ordained in March, 1860, by Zion's Classis and installed as pastor of the Sulphur Springs Charge, near Carlisle, Pa. He served this Charge for five years, and then from 1865 to 1868 was pastor of the Mt. Zion Charge, Turbotsville, Pa. In October, 1868, he became pastor of the Mifflinburg, Pa., Charge, serving it for ten years. He then returned to the Sulphur Springs Charge for a second pastorate of more than twelve years.

In 1893 he resigned and retired, establishing his residence in Reading. From March, 1897, after the death of Mr. Albright,

until his own death three months later, he supplied Olivet Church in Reading.

Mr. Addams died at his home in Reading, June 19, 1897. His widow and four children survived him.

References: Messenger; June 24, 1897

Seminary Register

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. SAMUEL SHAW

Samuel Shaw was born in Morrow County, Ohio, March 25, 1835. Being left an orphan at the age of eight, he was brought up in the home of Mr. Hellers at Delaware, Ohio. He spent some time at Heidelberg College and graduated at Heidelberg Theological Seminary in 1860. He was licensed by Tiffin Classis October 20, 1860, and ordained by the same Classis May 5, 1861.

Mr. Shaw served many Charges in Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Iowa. His pastoral career, as nearly as we can present it from available records, is as follows: Good Hope, Ohio, Charge, near Tiffin, October, 1860, to the latter part of 1861; Fostoria, Ohio, Charge, 1861 - 1863; Sydney (Port Jefferson), Ohio, Charge, 1863 - 1865; Union Charge, North Hampton, Ohio, January 1, 1865 to 1866; Mohican Charge, Mohicanville, Ohio, 1866 - 1874. While pastor here he also supplied the congregation at Reedsville, to which place he moved his residence in 1869, living there until he resigned the Mohican Charge in 1874. After having served the Salem Charge, Delmont, Pa., from 1874 to 1876, he went West to serve the Wilton Charge in the State of Iowa for not quite a year (Until March, 1877). In March, 1877, he went to the Bloomville, Ohio, Charge, where he was pastor from 1877 until 1884. In December, 1884, he moved to

Carrothers, Ohio, to organize the Caroline Charge which he served until January 1, 1888. From January 1, 1888 until July, 1889, he was pastor of the East Liberty, Ohio, Charge. He was then pastor at Marmont, Ind., from July, 1889 until September, 1892.

Then he went to Iowa again to serve the congregations at Lone Tree and Conesville in that State for about a year. In 1893 he became pastor of the Tipton, Iowa, Charge. After three years, he returned in October, 1896, to Lone Tree, Iowa, to serve the congregation there until his death, April 7, 1897, at the age of sixty-two.

On May 11, 1862, Mr. Shaw was married to Miss Esther Terflinger, who predeceased him. He was survived by two children.

References: Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

Deceased Ministers of the Reformed Church

Occasional References in the Messenger, 1860 - 1897

REV. GEORGE CLINTON ERB

G. C. Erb, the son of Samuel Erb, was born at Union Mills, near Westminster, Md., December 31, 1863. He was graduated from the Westminster High School and then from Western Maryland College at Westminster in 1886. He then entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in September of that year, graduating in 1889.

He was licensed by Maryland Classis, May 25, 1889 and ordained by the same Classis two days later. His first Charge was at Wilton Junction, Iowa, where he served for one year; then returned home and was a teacher in the Westminster High School for two years (1890-1892). In 1892 he became pastor of the McConnellsburg, Pa., Charge, which he served until 1896, when he accepted a Call to the Orbitsonia, Pa., Charge. After about a year in this field, his health

was in such a precarious state that he resigned his pastorate and returned to the home of his parents at Union Mills, where he died, April 9, 1897, at the age of thirty-four.

The funeral services on April 12, in Benjamin's (Kreider's) Church near Westminster, were in charge of Rev. C. S. Slagle. Rev. H. J. MacAlister, pastor of Benjamin's Church, preached the sermon. Burial followed in the Kerider's Union Cemetery.

Mr. Erb was survived by his widow and one child.

References: Messenger; April 29, 1897

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

Seminary Register

History of Maryland Classis

REV. REUBEN RAHAUSER (RAUHAUSER)

Reuben Rahauser was born in Dover Township, York County, Pa., August 18, 1836. He was baptized and confirmed by Rev. Daniel Ziegler.

He was early inclined to the ministry, but his financial resources were limited, so for a number of years he was compelled to defer, although not give up entirely the idea and hope of preaching the Gospel. In the meantime he had married and become the father of a family.

When he was no longer a young man, he felt that the fulfilment of his life's hope could no longer be delayed, so in 1868 or 1869 he moved his family to Collegeville, Pa., and enrolled as a student in Ursinus College, then just opened. He spent but a short time in the College, although he took the full course in the Theological Department, graduating in 1873.

He was licensed by Philadelphia Classis in May, 1873 and began

to serve the Kreutz Creek Charge in York County, in which Charge he was ordained and installed by Zion's Classis, November 27, 1873. He served this Charge for a little more than four years, then accepted a Call to the Mt. Pleasant, Pa., Charge, where he remained until October 30, 1884. This was really the end of his career as a pastor. He served a congregation as supply for about two years, but in the meantime he had become partially disabled and his wife had died, so about 1886 or 1887 he returned to the neighborhood of his birth to make his home for the rest of his life with a son at Emigsville, Pa.. From 1884 he was ill. Mr. Rahauser died at the home of his son on June 13, 1897, at the age of sixty.

Funeral services were held at Emigsville on June 16, with interment in Greenmount Cemetery near York.

References: Messenger; June 11, 1897

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. HENRY DIECHMANN (DEICHMANN)

Rev. Henry Diechmann, the son of Rev. Dr. J. F. H. Diechmann, was born at Concinnati, Ohio, October 25, 1856.

Strangely enough, this young man, the son of so distinguished and consecrated a churchman as was Dr. Diechmann, and brought up in a scholarly and religious atmosphere, showed no interest in entering his father's Calling until he was nearly thirty years of age. But, influenced by the industrial environment of the great city of Buffalo, N. Y., to which his father had moved when Henry was only a boy, and probably attracted by the high wages that a craftsman could command without too much formal education or without spending so many years in preparation for his life's work, he became in young manhood a machinist and worked in that occupation

until 1884.

Evidently, at last something that may have ^{been} dormant in his soul for a long time stirred into life. Henry laid aside his machinist's tools for the tools of education. In September, 1884, he entered Heidelberg College and Seminary, graduating from the latter institution in 1886. In that year he was licensed, ordained and accepted a Call to become pastor of the German Charge at Titusville, Pa., which he served from September, 1886, until January 1, 1894. On that date he became pastor of the German Church at Frostburg, Md.

Mr. Diechmann's career as a minister was brief. On June 17, 1897, he died at Frostburg of tuberculosis of the bowels, at the early age of forty years.

At the funeral service at Frostburg on June 18, Rev. A. Bruchlos preached in the German language and Rev. D. H. Leader in English. Rev. A. S. Glessner assisted in the services. Mr. Diechmann was buried at Buffalo, N. Y.

On December 28, 1886, Mr. Diechmann was married to Miss Louisa Kleppel. His widow and two children survived him.

References: Messenger; June 24, 1897

July 1, 1897

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. DAVID ROTHROCK (RODROCK)

David Rothrock was the fourth son of Jonathan and Susanna (Derr) Rothrock. His grand-parents on his father's side were Samuel and Anna Mary (Price) Rothrock. The family had lived for several generations at a homestead located in the region south of Bethlehem, Pa., and close to the Delaware River.

David was born at the family home, near Hellertown, Pa., December 1, 1830. He early showed evidences of a superior intellect and a poise far beyond what might be expected in one of his age. He was baptized in infancy and confirmed in 1877 in the Lower Saucon Church by Rev. D. F. Brendle.

He first prepared himself for a teaching career by attending the Tremont Seminary at Norristown, under the principalship of Prof. Samuel Aaron. At the age of seventeen he took charge of his first school, spending several years as a teacher in the Lower Saucon, Bath and Hecktown schools. At the early age of twenty-four, he was made Principal of the public school system of Bethlehem, Pa.. While in this position he served as organist of Salem Union Church in Bethlehem, Superintendent of the Sunday School and leader of the choir.

Finding his numerous duties at Bethlehem to be beyond his physical strength, he resigned after one year and took charge of the Santee Mill School and organist of Altonah Church.

At this time he finally determined to become a minister and placed himself under the supervision of his pastor, Rev. D. F. Brendle, retaining his position as teacher. After two years of study under these conditions, he was licensed by East Pennsylvania Classis in 1857 and ordained in 1858.

For one year he served as assistant to Rev. D. F. Brendle, under whose supervision he had studied theology. Also he supplied the Freemansburg and Old Williams congregations.

In 1859 he accepted a Call to become pastor of the Durham, Pa., Charge (also called Ottsville Charge and Lower Saucon Charge), consisting of four congregations; Durham, Nockamixon, Tinicum and Red Hill. During his service in this Charge, he resided for four years at Stony Point, twelve years at Bucksville, and twelve years

at Kintnersville.

This was his first and only regular Charge. He served it for thirty-three years from 1859 until his retirement in 1892. He then moved to Bethlehem, where he resided to the end of his life. During the years 1896 and 1897, he was called out of retirement to serve as pastor of the North Bethlehem Mission.

He died at his home in Bethlehem of pulmonary and heart trouble, June 19, 1897, at the age of sixty-six.

At the funeral services at Christ Church, Bethlehem, on June 23, Rev. G. A. Schwedes preached in the German language. Revs. N. Z. Snyder and A. B. Koplin assisted in the services and delivered addresses. He was buried in the cemetery at the Altonah Church, Rev. D. F. Brendle conducting the service at the grave. Ministerial members of Tohickon Classis, of which Mr. Rothrock was a charter member, served as pall-bearers.

Mr. Rothrock was married by Rev. D. F. Brendle in 1852 to Miss Mary Anne Hass of near Bethlehem. His widow and two sons survived him. One of his sons, Rev. J. J. Rothrock, was a minister of the Reformed Church for many years.

References: Messenger; July 8, 1897

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

Deceased Ministers of the Reformed Church

REV. DANIEL KROH

Daniel Kroh was born at Martinsburg, Va., (now W. Va.), October 30, 1809. He was baptized in infancy by Rev. Lewis Mayer, and confirmed on June 12, 1824, by Rev. Samuel Helffenstein, Jr.

He secured a common school education and was then apprenticed to the trade of a tailor, in which occupation he labored for several

years.

But he was convinced that he was called to the ministry, so in 1834 he gave up his secular calling and entered the High School at York under his former pastor, Dr. Mayer. When the High School was moved to Mercersburg in 1835 to become Marshall College, he went with it, graduating from Marshall College in 1838. During the years 1838 and 1839 he was a student in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. He was licensed by Virginia Classis in 1840 and at once started West to his first pastorate at Tiffin, Ohio, which he served from the middle of 1840, but was not ordained and regularly installed until April 12, 1841.

After a service of six years at Tiffin, he became pastor of a Mission congregation at Cincinnati for one year. In 1847 he went to Michigan and organized the Monroe Charge, the first pastoral Charge of the Reformed Church in the State of Michigan. During his pastorate here which continued until 1851, he was able to organize several other pastoral Charges in Southern Michigan. He was also largely instrumental in organizing St. Joseph Classis in 1850. In that year he paid a much enjoyed visit to California.

In 1851 he became pastor at Freeport, Ill. In August of 1852 the congregation at Cedar Creek Mills, Ill., was added to his Charge, which he served continuously until 1859. He was pastor at Elkhart, Ind., from 1859 until 1862; and at the Three Rivers, Mich., Charge from October, 1862 until April, 1865. Then from April, 1865 until January, 1869, he was without a pastoral Charge, residing during this interlude at Elkhart. He was pastor of the Fostoria, Ohio, Charge from January 1, 1869 until April, 1870, and of the Erie, Mich., Charge from April, 1870 until 1876.

This was the end of his pastoral career. He lived in retirement

at Erie until 1880, then moved to Toledo, Ohio, where he resided until the end of his life.

He died at the home of his daughter at East Saginaw, Mich., June 27, 1897, at the age of eighty-seven. He was buried at Three Rivers, Mich. His widow and one daughter survived him.

References: Seminary Register

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. JOHN DOTTERER

John Dotterer was a descendant of George Philip Dotterer who settled in Frederick Township, Montgomery County, Pa., and died in 1741. John was the son of John and Elizabeth (Hauck) Dotterer and was born in Colebrookdale Township, Berks County, Pa., March 31, 1844. His brother, Rev. Abraham Dotterer, was for just one year minister of the Reformed Church, his death occurring soon after his ordination. John was baptized in infancy by Rev. Samuel Seibert and confirmed at the age of eighteen in the Falkner Swamp Church by Rev. R. A. Van Court. His childhood was occupied in attending public school and working on his father's farm.

When he was seventeen years old he became a student in the Washington Hall School at Trappe, Pa., attending school in the spring, working on the farm during the summer, and teaching school during the winter months. Altogether he spent six years in teaching.

In the fall of 1868 he entered the Sophomore Class at Franklin and Marshall College, graduating in 1871. In the fall of that same year, he entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, grad-

uating from the Seminary in 1874. During the summer vacations of the years that he was a student in the Seminary, he taught in a select school at Jacksonville, Pa.

He was licensed May 24, 1874, by Goshenhoppen Classis. Having accepted a Call to the Curlllsville, Pa., Charge, consisting of three congregations, he was ordained and installed as pastor of that Charge, July 12, 1874, by a committee of Clarion Classis, composed of Revs. D. O. Shoemaker, Henry Hoffman and D. W. Wolff.

On July 1, 1877, he resigned the Curlllsville Charge to accept a Call to the New Berlin, Pa., Charge, consisting at the time of four congregations, which he served until July 15, 1878. His brief ^{and} pastorate at New Berlin when he was compelled to resign on account of ill-health.

After a year, he became pastor of the Pine Run, Pa., Charge, which he served for exactly six years (May 11, 1879, to May 11, 1885). After his resignation he served as supply for the Pine Run, St. James and Olive Congregations for six months longer.

On January 1, 1886, he became pastor of the Rebersburg, Pa., Charge, where he labored until November 1, 1889, when again he was compelled to resign on account of his health.

He then moved to Madisonburg, Pa., to live in retirement until such time as he should be sufficiently recovered to resume the duties of the active ministry. At the end of two years, being convinced that he would never again be able to discharge the duties of the active pastorate, he turned to secular employment, moving to a farm near his wife's home in Clinton County, Pa. Here he engaged in farming from 1892 until his death.

Mr. Dotterer died at his home near Lamar, Pa., August 20, 1897, at the age of fifty. The funeral services on August 23, both at the home and in Mt. Bethel Church, near Mill Hall, were in charge

of the pastor, Rev. J. M. Runkle, assisted by Revs. D. M. Wolff and R. L. Gerhart. He was buried in Mt. Bethel Church Cemetery.

On December 9, 1874, Mr. Dotterer was married to Miss Mary C. Meyer of Clintondale, Pa. His widow and five children survived him. One of his sons is Rev. Ray H. Dotterer, Ph. D., a minister of the Reformed Church who served as a pastor for a few years, but spent most of his life as Professor of Philosophy and Psychology at Franklin and Marshall College and at State College, Pa., He is now living retired at State College, Pa.

References: Messenger; August 26, 1897

September 9, 1897

Seminary Register

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

Obituary Record, F. & M. College

REV. LOUIS BRUGGER

Louis Brugger was born at Lenzburg, Switzerland, September 28, 1851. We have no information regarding his early education or of his coming to America. He was a student at the Mission House, Sheboygan, Wisc., and was ordained in 1881.

The record of Mr. Brugger's ministerial career is very deficient. We can only give the location of the congregations he served, without attempting an estimate of years served in each.

For one year after his ordination, he was assistant to Rev. L. Zenk. Then until April, 1897, he served the following congregations in the order named: Kohlsville, Wisc.; Elk Rapids, Mich.; Boyer's Store, Missouri; Wausau, Wisc.; and Norwood, Mich.

In April, 1897, he resigned the last-named Charge to retire and make his home in the State of Alabama. In June of the same year he

was stricken with nervous fever and died at Fruithurst, Ala., September 4, 1897, at the age of forty-five.

The funeral services on September 5, were in charge of a minister of the Baptist Church, Rev. S. Robson.

Reference: Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. JOHN G. KUHLE

John G. Kuhl was born at Holzheim in Hesse, Germany, October 4, 1847. In boyhood he attended the public schools and in youth learned a trade. At the age of eighteen he was mustered into the German army, serving during the Franco-Prussian War and taking part in several important engagements. After his army service he resumed his studies.

In 1873, at the age of twenty-six, he came to America and entered the Theological Seminary of the Mission House, from which he was graduated in 1875. He was licensed and ordained in the same year and assumed the pastorate of his first Charge at Kelley's Island, Ohio, which he served from 1875 until 1880. For a short time (May to July, 1880) he was either pastor or supply of the Piqua, Ohio, Charge. On July 2, 1880, he became pastor of the Covington, Ky., Charge which he served continuously until his death.

Mr. Kuhl died suddenly at Covington on Sunday afternoon, September 26, 1897, at the age of forty-nine, after having conducted services and preached in the morning of the same day.

On November 25, 1877, he was married (name of his wife not recorded). His widow and four children survived him. At the time of his death, his oldest son was a student for the ministry at the Mission House.

References: Messenger; August 18, 1875
Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1898

REV. ALFRED JOSEPH GETZ DUBBS, D. D.

A. J. G. Dubbs was a descendant of a family whose ancestry is traced to the Austrian Province of Styria, where members of the family are known to have visited as early as 1446. His family had earlier emigrated from Bohemia. The name "Dubs" signifies in the Bohemian language "Eichen", or "Oaks".

Jacob Dubs, the grandfather of A. J. G., came to America in the ship "Dragon", arriving in Philadelphia, September 30, 1732. On account of illness he was not able to appear in person at the court-house where the oath of allegiance was recorded, and the clerk incorrectly wrote the name "Dubbs", a spelling which was generally accepted and used by his descendants. Rev. Joseph S. Dubbs, son of Jacob, was for many years a prominent and respected minister of the Reformed Church.

A. J. G. Dubbs, son of Rev. Joseph S. and Susan (Getz) Dubbs, was born in Windsor (now Perry) Township in Berks County, Pa., when his father was pastor of the Windsor and Weiss congregations, June 8, 1826. He was baptized in infancy by Rev. Gottlieb Jaeger, and at the age of fifteen was confirmed by his father.

He attended the Academy at Easton, under Dr. John Vanderveer, intending to enter business. But in 1845 he entered Marshall College, leaving, however, toward the end of his Senior year, before graduation. He then became a teacher for several years and studied theology privately, probably under the supervision of his father. He was licensed and ordained by East Pennsylvania Classis in 1851. For one year he was his father's assistant at Zion's Church, Allentown and other related congregations.

In 1852 he became pastor of a Charge, consisting of the Mickley's, Frieden's and Salisbury congregations. A year later the Moon congregation and another in Towamensing Township, Lehigh County, were

added to his Charge.

In 1857 he became pastor of a Charge, composed of the following congregations: Trexlertown, Millerstown, Salisbury, Upper Milford and Friedensburg. Some of these congregations were a part of the Charge which he had been serving since 1852. He continued to serve this laborious Charge for sixteen years (1857 - 1873).

The Charge was then divided; the first three congregations named above being constituted into the Macungie Charge, which Mr. Dubbs continued to serve until 1876.

On January 1, 1876, he resigned the Macungie Charge to establish a Mission at Emmaus, Pa. and another at Allentown. At Emmaus a congregation was organized and a church built.

Beginning with April 1, 1876, he assumed the pastorate of a Mission which he boldly organized without any help from the Board of Home Missions. This congregation which became Salem Church at Allentown, dedicated its new church building at Christmastide in 1876. Its growth under Mr. Dubbs' leadership was phenomenal. In sixteen years the congregation had an enrolled membership of twelve hundred, with a Sunday School enrollment even larger. From 1890 until he resigned Salem Church, Rev. G. W. Richards was his assistant.

In 1892 Mr. Dubbs resigned and retired, making his home in Allentown. For several years he was not in good health.

His death occurred at his home, November 7, 1897, at the age of seventy-one. At the funeral services in Salem Church on November 11, Rev. Dr. N. C. Schaeffer preached in English from the text: Second Timothy, Chapter 1, Verse 10. Rev. G. W. Richards, his successor at Salem Church, preached in German, using the text: Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 20, Verse 24. He was buried at Allentown, Rev. Richards officiating at the grave. Sixty ministers of the Reformed Church and

other denominations attended the services.

On October 18, 1853, Dr. Dubbs was married to Miss Maria Schreiber, who died in January, 1894. They were the parents of one child who died in infancy. Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Dubbs, professor at Franklin and Marshall College for many years, was his half-brother.

Mr. Dubbs received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Franklin and Marshall College in 1885. He was a Director of the Allentown College for Women and of the Keystone State Normal School at Kutztown.

The biography of Dr. Dubbs was prepared and published by Dr. G. W. Richards in October, 1898.

References: Messenger; November 11, 1897

November 18, 1897

October 13, 1898

Biography by Dr. Richards, 1898

REV. FREDERICK HENRY WITZEL

F. H. Witzel, the son of John Theodore and Anna Marian Witzel, was born at Gerstingen an der Werr, Sachsen-Weimar, Eisenach, Germany, February 6, 1871. He was baptized in infancy and came with his parents to America in October, 1883.

The family had friends in Mahanoy City, Pa., so the immigrants settled there and continued to make their home at that place. Young Witzel was confirmed by Rev. H. A. Keyser and became, with his family, a member of St. Paul's Church at Mahanoy City.

The young lad, after settling in America, continued his studies under the supervision of his pastor, Rev. Keyser, paying special attention to English grammar. In 1888 he entered the

Preparatory Department of Ursinus College, where he spent three years. He was graduated from Ursinus College in 1894 and from the Ursinus School of Theology in 1896. He was licensed by Schuylkill Classis and on June 21, 1896, he was ordained and installed as pastor of Grace Church, Hazleton, Pa. However, his pastoral career was brief. After an illness of five days, he died at his home in Hazleton, November 4, 1897, at the age of twenty-six.

Funeral services were held on November 8 in Grace Church, Hazleton, in charge of Rev. A. M. Masonheimer, assisted by Revs. J. W. Mabry, T. A. Huber and J. B. Kerschner. Funeral addresses were delivered by Revs. F. H. Ruloff in German and by Rev. C. H. Brandt in English. Then, more than three hundred persons, consisting of clergymen, members and friends from Hazleton, were conveyed by special train to Mahanoy City, where further services were held in St. Paul's Church. The funeral addresses by Revs. Ruloff and Brandt were repeated. Assisting in the services at Mahanoy City were Revs. Fisher, Schoedler and J. I. Good.

Mr. Witzel was married on June 30, 1896, to Miss Ida M. Keyser, daughter of Rev. H. A. Keyser. His widow and one child survived.

References: Messenger; November 11, 1897

November 18, 1897

REV. SAMUEL KUHN

Samuel Kuhn, son of John and Elizabeth (Gallatin) Kuhn, was born in Franklin County, Pa., August 14, 1819. He was baptized in infancy and confirmed, October 19, 1835, by Rev. F. A. Rahauser. His mother died when he was six years old. He spent his childhood and youth working on his father's farm and attending the public school. At the age of seventeen, he learned the trade of cabinet-

making.

Through the influence of his pastor, Rev. A. H. Kremer, he was induced to prepare for the ministry. In the spring of 1841 he entered Marshall College, but after a short time was compelled to leave on account of a shortage of funds. He then returned to his trade of cabinet-making but continued his studies privately. In 1850 he presented himself for examination as a candidate for the ministry. He was examined and licensed by Mercersburg ^{Classis} at its annual meeting that year.

He was ordained on July 1, 1851, by Zion's Classis and installed as pastor of the New Bloomfield, Pa., Charge. The committee on ordination and installation consisted of Revs. A. H. Kremer, Charles Leinbach and William Bennet.

He served the New Bloomfield Charge until December, 1862, when he resigned to accept a Call to the Aaronsburg, Pa., Charge, which he served until April 1, 1867. He was pastor of the Hummelstown, Pa., Charge from 1867 until November 1, 1882; then of the Berriesburg Charge until August, 1890. In 1890 he became pastor of the Liverpool, Pa., Charge, which he served until his retirement from the active ministry in 1895, when, after forty-four years in the pastorate, he moved with his family to Elizabethville, Pa., to spend the remainder of his life.

He died at his residence in Elizabethville, October 28, 1897, at the age of seventy-eight. At the funeral services on November 1, Rev. J. J. Stauffer preached in German and Rev. J. C. Limbach preached in English. Several other ministers assisted in the services.

Mr. Kuhn was married on March 22, 1843, to Miss Eleanor Maria Cunningham. Several years after her death he was married a second

time on March 13, 1877, to Miss Margaret Eckert, by Rev. W. H. H. Snyder. His second wife and four children survived him.

References: Messenger; November 11, 1897

Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. CHARLES T. HEIMBERGER

C. T. Heimberger was born in Germany in 1819. He had studied theology as a young man in his native country, but not until in later life and after he had come to America did he enter the ministry.

In 1882, at the age of sixty-three, he became pastor of a church in Brooklyn, N. Y., which he served until 1885. In that year he moved to Milltown, N. J., to serve the church there for five years (until at least 1890). Then he retired and made his home at Bridgeport, Conn., until 1895. In 1895 he established his residence in New York City, where he remained in retirement until the end of his life.

He died at his home in New York City on November 19, 1897, at the age of seventy-eight. He was buried at Allentown, Pa.

References: Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

Eastern Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1882-1899

REV. HENRY WILLIAM SUPER, D. D., LL. D.

H. W. Super, son of John Super, who fought at the Battle of North Point in defense of the City of Baltimore in 1814, and of his wife, Hannah (Ronck) Super, was born in Baltimore, Md., December 31, 1824. He was baptized in infancy by Rev. John D. Kurtz,

a Lutheran minister.

The father was evidently in good circumstances for his son was educated at the private schools of Captain Stephen Ackworth and Richard Cotter in Baltimore. After his father's death in 1837, he was taken from school and put into a counting-house to learn the elements of business. He was very diligent and proficient, so that in a few years he had been promoted to the position of head book-keeper in a large commercial establishment. In 1840 he was confirmed a member of the First Reformed Church in Baltimore.

In 1845 he entered Marshall College, graduating in 1849. During his college course, he organized and was the leader of the famous "Super's Band". He was a thorough musician and it is said that he earned most of the money for his college expenses by arranging music for bands and by teaching music to the students at the college. Mr. Super composed many musical numbers for choirs and for orchestral performance. Throughout his whole life he was a lover of the fine arts, especially of painting.

After graduation from college, he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, but after one year at the Seminary, he left and went to Memphis, Tenn., as a teacher for five months. On his way back to Mercersburg, he paid a visit to Tiffin, Ohio, in 1851. At this time, the Tiffin Charge was about to be divided and Mr. Super was asked to take charge of the Mt. Pisgah church, the congregation to be detached. In anticipation of this arrangement, he was licensed by Maumee Classis, April 26, 1851. But inasmuch as Mr. Super found that the matter of the division of the Tiffin Charge would be delayed for some months and he was not willing to spend so much time in idleness, he returned without any more delay to the Seminary, graduating in the fall of 1851.

Upon his graduation from the Seminary, he was called to be pas-

tor of the Waynesboro, Pa., Charge, and began his work there on November 22, 1851. He was ordained by Mercersburg Classis on February 9, 1852.

In March, 1854, on account of ill health, Mr. Super resigned and returned to his home in Baltimore. At the end of the year, however, he resumed his service in the Waynesboro Charge, remaining there until April 1, 1862. In 1854 he was co-principal of the Cumberland Valley Institute.

In 1862 he became pastor of the Second Church at Greensburg, Pa., supplying, also, the Irwin and Seanors congregations. This arrangement continued until April, 1865, when he resigned and returned again to Baltimore. From 1867 until 1870 he was Professor of Mathematics at the Keystone State Normal School at Kutztown, Pa..

Just after the opening of Ursinus College, in 1870, Mr. Super was invited to become a member of the faculty as Professor of Mathematics and Physics; also to serve as Vice-President of the College. When the Theological School was established at Ursinus, Mr. Super became Professor of Church History and Homiletics, in which position he served until the death of President Bomberger in 1890. Mr. Super was then elected acting-President of the college for the remainder of the college year. At the end of the year, he resigned the presidency and his professorship, thus severing all connection with Ursinus College. At that time the Heidelberg Theological Seminary offered him the Chair of New Testament Exegesis and Theology, an offer which was declined. After he had rested for a year, he was unanimously elected President of Ursinus College, September 11, 1892, a position which he accepted and in which he served for exactly one year (To September, 1893).

He then retired and established a home at Trappe, Pa., where he

resided until the end of his life.

In 1874 Heidelberg College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, and in 1891 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the same institution.

Dr. Super died at his home in Trappe, November 26, 1897, at the age of seventy-two. The cause of his death was a severe attack of bronchitis which developed into abdominal catarrh. He was ill for about five weeks.

Funeral services were held on December 1, first at his home in charge of Rev. S. L. Messinger, pastor of St. Luke's Church, which Dr. Super had attended for twenty-seven years. Revs. Sechler and Henry assisted. Rev. C. H. Koon delivered an eulogistic address. Further services were held in St. Luke's Church at Trappe. Rev. S. L. Messinger preached the sermon from the text: Second Timothy, Chapter 4, Verse 7. Rev. D. E. Klopp followed with a sermon from the text: Prophecy of Isaiah, Chapter 41, Verse 8. Six ministerial brethren served as pall-bearers. Altogether, twenty-five ministers attended the services.

On April 2, 1873, Dr. Super was married to Mrs. Sarah H. Detwiler, who survived him.

Dr. Super, rather against his will, was drawn into the bitter controversy concerning the right of Ursinus College to teach theology. After the question had been decided adversely by the Eastern Synod (1871), Dr. Super appealed to the General Synod. Here he received a favorable decision (1872), and upon that decision the Ursinus School of Theology was continued without question for a number of years.

References: Messenger; December 2, 1897

December 9, 1897

December 16, 1897

Reformed Church Almanac, 1899

Seminary Register

Obituary Record, F. & M. College

REV. JOHN L. BRETZ

John L. Bretz was born in Starke County, Ohio, near Massillon, June 27, 1852. He was baptized in infancy and confirmed in youth as a member of the Reformed Church. His early years were spent on his father's farm and in attending the schools of his neighborhood.

At the age of twenty-one, he entered the Smithville, Ohio, Academy to prepare for a teaching career. After one term as a teacher, he entered Heidelberg College in 1876, graduating from the College in 1880 and from the Heidelberg Theological Seminary in 1882. He was licensed by Tiffin Classis and after being ordained became pastor of the Bluffton, Ind., Charge, which he served from 1882 until 1886.

In August, 1886, he accepted a Call to the Canal Fulton, Ohio, Charge, where he remained until June 1891. He was then pastor of the Canal Winchester, Ohio, Charge from 1891 until 1895.

In 1895 he moved to the Millersburg, Ind., Charge which he served to the end of his life. Mr. Bretz died at his home in Millersburg on November 30, 1897, at the age of forty-five.

On September 4, 1884, he was married to Miss Maggie A. Bauman, daughter of Rev. F. C. Bauman of Maquoketa, Iowa. His widow and three children survived him.

Reference: Western Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

1898

REV. ISAAC MATZINGER

Isaac Matzinger was born at Ruedlingen, Canton Schaaflhausen, Switzerland, January 19, 1831. At the age of twenty he came to America with his parents, the family settling at Burlington, Ohio. He prepared for the ministry at the Heidelberg Theological Seminary.

The record is not clear as to Mr. Matzinger's pastoral appointments, nor are we sure of the locations. Basing our conclusions upon the best sources of information at our command, we present the following list of pastoral Charges served by Mr. Matzinger.

1. Bascom, Kenton and Ashland, Ohio.
2. Auburn and Clay City, Ind.
3. A Charge in Minnesota.
4. A Charge in Chicago, Ill.
5. West Bay City and Elk Rapids, Michigan.

He died at Elk Rapids, January 29, 1898, at the age of sixty-seven. At the funeral services on February 1, Rev. J. Wernly preached in German and Rev. J. Hauser in English. He was buried at Swanton, Ohio.

Mr. Matzinger was twice married: First, On March 27, 1859, to Miss Ophelia Reutenik, who died during his first pastorate; Second, On November 30, 1875, to Miss Dorothea Nass, who survived him.

References: Messenger; February 24, 1898

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. CLEMENT ZWINGLI WEISER, D. D.

C. Z. Weiser, the son of Rev. Dr. Daniel and Caroline (Boyer) Weiser, was born at Selinsgrove, Pa., October 29, 1830, while his father was serving a pastorate there. He was a descendant of Conrad

Weiser the pioneer, of whom it was said that he was the only human contact between the Indians and the white people in Colonial times.

He prepared for college at the Academy in Trappe, Pa., and in 1847 entered Marshall College as a member of the Sophomore Class, graduating in 1850. He was graduated from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1852.

During his Seminary course and later, he taught German in Marshall College, and was co-Rector, with Rev. S. G. Wagner, of the Preparatory Department of the College, during the years 1853 and 1854.

He was licensed by Goshenhoppen Classis in 1854, and then having accepted a Call to the Selinsgrove, Pa., Charge, which had been served by his father some years before, he was ordained and installed in 1855.

Mr. Weiser became very ill in 1857, and believing that his ministerial career was ended, resigned his Charge and retired. Having recovered from his illness, he became pastor in 1858 of the New Berlin, Pa., Charge, also supply-pastor of his former Charge at Selinsgrove.

It is not known when he severed his connection with the New Berlin Charge but he continued to serve at Selinsgrove until 1862, when he became assistant to his father who was then pastor of the New Goshenhoppen Charge at East Greenville, Pa.

In a little more than a year later (November, 1863), when his father retired, Mr. Weiser was elected pastor of the Charge and served it until his own retirement in 1892. It is unique that Mr. Weiser's pastorates were those which had been served previously by his father. In 1867 he was invited to become pastor of the Trinity Mission at Philadelphia, which invitation he declined. He had resigned the New Goshenhoppen Charge in 1864, but evidently

reconsidered and continued on with his work. He was much attached to the people at East Greenville, and they to him. From the time of his final resignation in 1892, he suffered greatly until his death from nervous prostration.

Mr. Weiser died at his home in East Greenville on March 1, 1898, at the age of sixty-seven. At the funeral services in the New Goshenhoppen Church on March 7, Rev. Dr. J. H. Dubbs preached the sermon from the text: Prophecy of Daniel, Chapter 12, Verse 3. Rev. G. B. Walbert preached in German from the text: Gospel of John, Chapter 9, Verse 5. Rev. S. N. Callender delivered an address. Revs. T. H. Leinbach, S. G. Wagner, Eli Keller and L. K. Evans assisted in the services. Altogether, forty ministers attended the services, of whom six served as pall-bearers. He was buried in the Cemetery of the New Goshenhoppen Church at East Greenville.

In March, 1859, Mr. Weiser was married to Miss Louisa C. Gutelius of Mifflinburg, Pa. He was survived by his widow. In 1875 Mr. Weiser received from Franklin and Marshall College the Honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. Weiser's greatest claim to distinction in the ministry of the Reformed Church is his connection with the Peace Movement. It was he, who in 1878 offered the original Peace Resolution at the session of General Synod. He was Chairman of the Peace Commission, and the Report of the Commission, which brought to a close the series of bitter controversies which plagued the Reformed Church for more than three decades, was to a large extent prepared by Dr. Weiser.

He was a frequent and valued contributor to the church papers and magazines: the Messenger, Hausfreund, Reformed Church Record, The Guardian, and the Reformed Quarterly Review.

He was the author, also, of the following books: "Monograph of

the New Goshenhoppen and Great Swamp Charge", published in 1882; "The Life of John Conrad Weiser, the German Pioneer, Patriot and Patron of Two Races", published in 1876; "A Child's Life of Christ", published in 1886.

He was a member of the Board of Foreign Missions from 1881 to 1893, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College from 1879 to 1894.

References: Messenger; March 3, 1898

March 10, 1898

March 24, 1898

(died) - Seminary Register - 3/1/1898

Obituary Record, F. & M. College

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. AUGUSTUS KANNE

Augustus Kanne was born at Detmold, Germany, September 30, 1842. He was educated for the ministry at the Mission House at St. Chrischous, Switzerland.

It is not known when he came to America or if he attended any theological school in this country before entering the ministry. He seems to have begun his pastoral career about the year 1870, by becoming pastor of the Wabesha, Minn., Mission, where he served for seven years. He was next pastor of the La Crosse, Wisc., Charge for five years; then at Han, Iowa, for ten years. In 1892 he was commissioned pastor of the Lincoln, Neb., Mission. He served here until his death.

Mr. Kanne died at his home in Lincoln, March 20, 1898, at the age of fifty-five. Funeral services on March 22 were in charge of Rev. T. F. Stauffer. Revs. Hullhorst and Arnold preached in

German, Rev. Ludden in English. Four ministerial brethren served as pall-bearers. He was buried at Lincoln.

In 1871 Mr. Kanne was married to Miss Elizabeth Danueser of Switzerland, who died July 6, 1895. On September 10, 1896, Mr. Kanne was married a second time to Miss Catherine Danueser, a sister of his first wife. He was survived by his second wife and six children.

References: Messenger; April 7, 1898

April 14, 1898

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. DANIEL F. SCHROTH

D. F. Schroth was born at Württemberg, Germany, July 13, 1834. He came to America in 1854 and worked on a farm until 1866. He then felt that he was called to the ministry, and to prepare himself for pastoral labor, entered the Mission House Theological Seminary at Franklin, Wisc. After studying here for three years he was licensed and ordained.

His first Charge was at Marion, Ohio, where he served from 1869 until 1881 or 1882. He then moved to Helvetia, W. Va., whether to serve as pastor of a congregation or to live there in retirement, we are not able to say. He made his home continuously in Helvetia until his death, March 21, 1898, at the age of sixty-three. During the last years of his life he suffered a great deal.

On January 16, 1872, he was married to Miss Dorothea Fisher, who died in October of that same year. Just a year afterwards, in October, 1873, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Nill.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899.

REV. JACOB OTT MILLER, D. D.

J. O. Miller was the son of Jacob H. and Anna Mary (Ott) Miller. His father, a native of Reading, Pa., was a hatter and worked at his trade at Reading, Hagerstown, Md., and Woodstock, Va. His grandfather, Jacob Mueller was a religious refugee from Alsace.

Jacob O. Miller was born at Woodstock, Va., December 22, 1822. When he was five years old his parents moved back to Reading and there Jacob spent his childhood and youth. He attended the common schools of his day and at the age of sixteen, began teaching.

He prepared for college at a private school and in 1845 entered Marshall College as a member of the Sophomore Class. He was graduated from college in 1848, and then entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, from which he was graduated in 1850.

On October 13, 1850, he was licensed by Virginia Classis, then in session at Martinsburg, Va., and entered immediately upon his ministerial labors as missionary pastor of the Centenary Church at Winchester, Va., and other congregations in the vicinity. Here he served from October, 1850, until January, 1853, when he was called to the pastorate of the First ^{Trinity} Reformed Church at York, Pa., which he served until his death.

He died of heart disease at York on April 18, 1898, at the age of seventy-five. The funeral services were held in the First Church on April 21, in charge of Revs. J. C. Bowman and T. G. Apple.

Rev. E. R. Eschbach preached the funeral sermon from the text: Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 13, Verse 36. He was buried at York. Thirty-three ministers were in attendance at the funeral services.

On August 30, 1854, Mr. Miller was married to Miss Augusta Virginia L. McChesney, daughter of Dr. John McChesney of Woodstock, Va. His widow and four children survived him.

In 1870 Mr. Miller received from Franklin and Marshall College

the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. For twenty-six years he was chaplain of the York Fire Department.

He was for a quarter of a century a trustee of the York County Academy, a member of the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall college from 1856 to 1898, and a member of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary from 1873 to 1898. He was President of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and when the Tri-Synodic Board became the Bi-Synodic Board, he was elected President of that Body.

References: Messenger; April 21, 1898

April 28, 1898

Seminary Register

Obituary Record, F. & M. College

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. LAWRENCE D. LEBERMAN

L. D. Leberman was born in Germany, June 23, 1820, and came to America at an early age.

He prepared for the ministry at Gettysburg College and Theological Seminary. He was licensed by Goshenhoppen Classis in 1846 and ordained in June of that same year as pastor of the Licking Charge, composed of five congregations, located respectively at Amity, Baumstown, Huber's Church, Brownback's Church, and one other congregation.

He served this Charge for two years and then in 1848 resigned to become pastor of the Reimersburg, Pa., Charge, consisting of nine congregations, all small and all rural and at some distance from one another. In 1850 he became pastor of the Red Bank Charge, residing at New Bethlehem, Pa. He served here for six years, then moved to the Petersburg Charge (this may have been the Water

street Charge). In 1858 he began to serve as pastor of the Mercer Missionary Charge in Mercer County, Pa. Then from July, 1859, until 1866, he was pastor of the Meadville, Pa., Charge. In the latter year he resigned to become Superintendent of Home Missions in the Western Pennsylvania District, retaining his residence at Meadville.

In October, 1868, he began to serve as supply-pastor at Leesport, Hamburg, Pa., and one other congregation. One year later he began a pastorate in Zion's (Second) Church at Pottstown, Pa., Amity, Baumstown and Limerick (Some of these congregations were in his first pastoral Charge).

He resigned in 1880, but his resignation was not approved by Goshenhoppen Classis. In 1882 he again submitted his resignation, and this time the Classis raised no objection. From 1882 until 1884 he engaged in a secular occupation at Pottstown.

Two years later (1884), under the auspices of the Board of Home Missions, he went to California to serve as a missionary at San Francisco. A year later he was appointed Superintendent of Home Missions on the Pacific Coast, but resigned the position a few months later on account of his wife's health and returned East to make his home in Philadelphia in retirement. During these years, however, until his death, he engaged in a secular occupation.

Mr. Leberman died at his residence in Philadelphia, April 28, 1898, at the age of seventy-seven. Funeral services on May 1 were held first at his home. Further services were held in the Chapel of the Cemetery at Reading in charge of Revs. C. S. Wieand, L. K. Evans, B. Bausman, and L. K. Derr. He was buried in Reading.

In August, 1849, he was married to Miss Louisa Benford, who died in 1868. Several years later, he was married a second time

to Miss Catherine Francis. His widow and nine children survived him.

References: Messenger; May 5, 1898

May 12, 1898

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. F. FERENCZI

Nothing is known of the life of Mr. Ferenczi until he became pastor of the Hungarian Mission at Pittsburgh, Pa., which he served successfully and acceptably for several years.

The circumstances of his death were distressing. He had been cited to appear in court as a witness in a bigamy case, and to explain why he had not returned, within the time allowed by law, a marriage license for a marriage which he had performed.

It is thought that on account of his lack of familiarity with American laws, he may have regarded the summons as a portent of disgrace and possibly severe punishment. At any rate, at about noon of June 10, 1898, he shot himself at his residence in Pittsburgh, dying instantly at the age of forty-five.

Funeral services were held in Grace Church, Pittsburgh, in charge of the pastor, Rev. J. H. Prugh. He was buried in Pittsburgh. Mr. Ferenczi was never married.

He was highly esteemed and beloved by his congregation, an affection which was abundantly reciprocated. He left his bank account, amounting to several hundred dollars, and a life insurance policy for one thousand dollars, to his congregation.

References: Messenger; June 23, 1898

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. JOHN G. FETZER

John G. Fetzer was born at Manneberg, Württemberg, Germany, January 6, 1854. He attended the public schools of his neighborhood and in early manhood learned the trade of a stone-mason. Having determined, however, to enter the ministry, he abandoned his secular occupation and entered the Mission House at Basle, Switzerland, for his preparatory education.

In 1879 he came to America, settling at Wyandotte, Mich., as a member of the Evangelical Synod of North America. He served a pastorate of five years at Wyandotte, then served Charges at Oshkosh, Wisc., and at Schleisingville, Wisc. (as visiting minister for fifteen months).

At the end of this pastorate, about 1888 or 1889, he withdrew from the Evangelical Synod and connected himself with the Reformed Church. He returned to Wyandotte for a short time, then for three months was pastor or supply at Russellville, Ky.

In 1890 he went to Wirth, Ark, organized a congregation, built a church and served it as pastor, together with two other congregations in southern Missouri until his death. During his pastorate at Wirth, he resided on a farm which he had purchased when he came from Kentucky. He died at his home at Wirth, June 18, 1898, at the age of forty-four.

In 1880 he was married to Miss Amelia Ruetz, who survived him with seven children.

References: Messenger; September 15, 1898

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. JOHN C. KLAR

John C. Klar was born at Eckhartsborn, Kreis Nidda, Hesse-

Darmstadt, Germany, October 5, 1823. At the age of thirteen he came to America with his parents, the family settling at Baltimore, Md. He was graduated from Marshall College in 1850 and from the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1852.

Evidently the family had moved West before his graduation from the Seminary, since he was licensed and ordained by the Synod of Ohio in 1852. He served the following pastoral Charges, all in the State of Ohio except one: Mansfield, Ohio, 1852 - 1855; Thompson Charge, Seneca County, Ohio, 1855 - 1858; Tarlton, Ohio, Charge, 1858 - 1861; Wheatland Mission, Clinton, Iowa, 1861 - 1865; Navarre, Ohio, Charge, 1865 - 1871; Waynesburg Charge, Stark County, Ohio, 1871 - 1880; supplied a Swiss congregation in Columbiana County, Ohio, 1880 - 1885; New Bedford, Ohio, Charge, 1885 - 1888. In 1888 he retired from the active ministry to his farm near Navarre, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died at his farm home on July 16, 1898, at the age of seventy-four.

On October 22, 1854, he was married to Miss Catherine Crouse.

References: Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1899

REV. THOMAS GILMORE APPLE, Ph. D., D. D., LL. D.

T. G. Apple, the seventh son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Gilmore) Apple, was born at Easton, Pa., November 14, 1829. His ancestors were of German, Scotch-Irish, and English descent, the original spelling of the name being "Aepiel".

Members of the family have never been able to agree as to the modern spelling of the name, some spelling it "Apple", and others "Appel". It seems that each individual member of the family chose his own spelling. There is at least one instance in which the

father spelled it "Apple", and the son, "Appel"; another instance in which brothers spelled it differently. Even to the present, the diversity in spelling continues.

Thomas G. was baptized in infancy by Rev. Thomas Pomp. In 1840 the family moved to Saegerstown, Pa., and so he was confirmed by Rev. Benjamin Royer. During his boyhood he worked on his father's farm and in the mill. He attended the public schools, and in 1845, entered Dr. Vanderveer's School at Easton to study Latin and Greek, and prepare for college. In 1848 he entered the Junior Class of Marshall College, graduating in 1850.

He then accepted a teaching position in the Elmwood Institute at Norristown, Pa., under the presidency of Rev. J. R. Kooker. While he was here, he diligently pursued his studies in theology which he had begun while a student at Marshall College.

In 1852 he took charge of the Vanderveer School and was licensed in May of that year by Goshenhoppen Classis. He was ordained by the same Classis in July, 1853, and became pastor of the Riegelsville, Pa., Charge; also supplying the Lower Mt. Bethel congregation north of Easton. He continued in the double capacity of pastor and teacher until June 1, 1856. He then withdrew from the Vanderveer School and accepted a Call to the pastorate of the Second (English) Church at Greensburg, Pa., and of the congregation at Irwin, Pa.

After sixteen months in this pastorate he resigned to become pastor of the Mechanicsburg, Pa., Charge; also to act as Principal of a school established at Mechanicsburg by I. D. Rupp.

After less than a year at Mechanicsburg, he became pastor of the Greencastle, Pa., Charge, which he served from March 1, 1858, until January 1, 1866.

From the time of the establishment of Mercersburg College in 1865,⁴ ^{he} was a part-time teacher in the institution; then at the beginning of the year 1866, he resigned the Greencastle Charge and moved to Mercersburg as full-time teacher in the college. In June of that year, he became President of Mercersburg College, serving as such until 1871. After the death of Dr. Harbaugh at the end of the year 1867, he lectured to classes in the Seminary for a time.

In 1871 when the Theological Seminary was about to move to Lancaster, Dr. Apple and Dr. Higbee, who for several years had been a Professor in the Seminary, exchanged places, with the approval, of course, of the Synod. Dr. Higbee, who did not wish to leave Mercersburg, became president of the college, while Dr. Apple took Dr. Higbee's position in the Seminary as Professor of Church History and Exegesis, and moved with the Seminary to Lancaster.

Dr. Apple occupied his Chair in the Seminary until his death. In 1877 when Dr. Nevin resigned as President of Franklin and Marshall College, leaving the affairs of the College in a precarious condition, Dr. Apple was induced to assume the Presidency on a temporary basis. But he continued, after having been regularly elected, to serve the College as President until 1889, retaining his Professorship all the while in the Seminary and discharging all the duties connected with it. In addition to the activities of the Presidency, he taught all the classes in the Department of Philosophy, including Philosophy of History, Psychology, Logic, Aesthetics and Ethics. In 1889 he resigned the Presidency of the College, and confined his activities thereafter to his duties as Professor in the Seminary.

Dr. Apple was in poor health for a year before his death. During the summer of 1898 he spent some time at Atlantic City in the hope of improvement. However, he became worse until his death on Sept-

ember 17, 1898, at the age of sixty-eight.

Funeral services were held on September 20 in the College Chapel. Rev. E. V. Gerhart preached the sermon. Addresses were delivered by Revs. J. M. Titzel and S. G. Wagner. He was buried in the Lancaster Cemetery.

Dr. Apple was married, August 27, 1857, to Miss Emma Matilda Miller, daughter of John Miller of Easton. His widow and eight children survived him.

Revs. J. H. Apple, Sr., and Theodore Appel, both distinguished ministers of the Reformed Church, were his brothers. Rev. H. H. Apple, later President of Franklin and Marshall College, was his son. Rev. J. H. Apple, Jr., President of Hood College, was his nephew. Several of his descendants have been prominent members of the legal profession in Lancaster.

Dr. Apple was honored three times with honorary degrees; Doctor of Philosophy by Lafayette College in 1867; Doctor of Divinity by Franklin and Marshall College in 1869; and Doctor of Laws by Lafayette College in 1886.

He was President of the Eastern Synod in 1868 - 1869, and President of the General Synod, 1893 - 1896. He was a delegate to the Alliance of Reformed Churches in 1880, 1884, 1888 and 1892, meeting twice in Europe, once in Canada and once in the United States. He was a member of the Peace Commission and a member of the Committee in 1868 to prepare the Order of Worship. From 1867, for a number of years, and with the assistance of Drs. Higbee, J. M. Titzel and William Rupp, he was Editor of the Reformed Church Review.

Dr. Apple was a voluminous writer for the church papers and magazines - the Review, the Christian World, the Messenger, and the Independent. He contributed more than two hundred and fifty articles to the Messenger, including more than a hundred in the "A" Series,

and eleven in the "Spectator" Series.

References: Messenger; September 22, 1898

October 29, 1898

Obituary Record, F. & M. College

A Century of Education at Mercersburg,

by Dr. H. M. J. Klein

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. HENRY M. TRAUTMAN

H. M. Trautman was born in Alsace, France, December 16, 1819. He came to America with his parents in 1831, the family finding a home, first at Pittsburgh, and later residing at Cleveland. When he grew up he learned and worked at the blacksmith trade.

He had no thought of entering the ministry, nor was he interested in spiritual or religious matters until he was converted by Rev. Kaufholz, pastor of the First Reformed Church at Cleveland. He was then confirmed as a member of the Reformed Church.

We know nothing of his preliminary studies or where he prepared for the ministry. He was licensed in 1862 and ordained in 1863. He was pastor at Vermillion, Ohio, for a short time, then at Kelley's Island, Ohio, and in other Charges of which we have no record.

In 1873 he became pastor of the newly-organized Fourth Church at Cleveland, Ohio, which he served until his retirement in 1881. However, he later came out of retirement to serve the Fifth Reformed Church of Cleveland for two years, 1881 - 1883.

Then, being disabled, he spent the remainder of his life quietly as a semi-invalid. He died at his home in Cleveland, October 29, 1898, at the age of sixty-nine. He was buried in the Monroe St.

Cemetery in Cleveland.

Mr. Trautman was married to Miss Maria Elizabeth Bruckner, who died in 1895.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. MORITZ NULL

Moritz Null was born at Bergfreiheit, Waldeck, Germany, August 24, 1845. As a young man he learned the tailoring trade which he followed for a short time, but being convinced that he was called to the Christian ministry, he went to Switzerland to study theology at the St. Chrischona Mission House at Basle. After completing his course he came to America early in the year 1873. In October of that year he was licensed and ordained by the German Philadelphia Classis, and installed as pastor of a German congregation at Harrisburg, Pa..

He served here until June, 1877, when he became pastor of the Bellaire, Ohio, Charge. He resigned his work there in August, 1879, to become pastor of the Ragersville, Ohio, Charge, which he served for thirteen years. In 1892 he came to the New Knoxville, Ohio, Charge, which he served until his death.

After an illness of six months, he died at his home in New Knoxville, November 2, 1898, at the age of fifty-three. He was buried at New Knoxville.

Mr. Null was married on May 2, 1876, to Miss Mary Fisher, who died June 11 of the same year. He was married a second time on June 1, 1880, to Miss Emma Zahner, who survived him.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. M. G. ISADORE STERN, D. D.

M. G. I. Stern was born at Schweisfurt, Bavaria, Germany, May 9, 1828, of Jewish parentage. He was educated at Wurzburg and at Frankfort-on-the-Main, and at the age of nineteen came to America. He attended the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg for two years, graduating in 1852. Previous to his attendance at the Theological Seminary, he was for a time a student at Marshall College.

He was licensed in December, 1852, by Mercersburg Classis, and ordained early in 1853 by New York Classis. For a few months he was pastor at Tiffin, Ohio, and then became a missionary pastor in Rochester, N. Y., where he served for one year. He resided at Galion, Ohio, for a few months, and then went to Delaware, Ohio, where he organized a congregation and built a church. He served here for two years, 1854 - 1856, and then became pastor of the First Reformed Church at Indianapolis, Ind, where he served from 1857 until 1867. In that year he organized St. John's Mission at Indianapolis and served as its pastor for thirty years.. In January, 1893, he celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary of St. John's Church.

In December, 1897, he resigned and retired on account of failing eye-sight. He died December 18, 1898, at the age of seventy. He was buried at Indianapolis.

During his residence in Galion in 1853 he was married to Sarah J. Stern, who died December 15, 1876.

Dr. Stern was a member of the Board of Home Missions of the two Western German Synods for thirty-six years, and President of the Board for ten years. He was the founder of the Church Building Fund of the German Synods and one of the founders of the Deaconess Home at Indianapolis.

References: Messenger; December 29, 1898

References (Continued) Seminary Register
Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. THOMAS LONG

Thomas Long, the son of John Long, was born in Davidson County, near Winston-Salem, N. C., in the vicinity of Bethany Church of what is now the North Davidson Charge, in 1818. His entire education was obtained in the common schools of the day, but he was endowed with good sound common-sense and an earnest responsible character, which supplied much of that preparation for life which he may have lacked in formal education.

He was baptized in infancy, and in his youth was confirmed a member of the Bethany (also called Hebron) congregation of the original Davidson Charge. In time, being active in the affairs of the congregation, he was elected to the office of elder.

An interesting story is told concerning the building of the new Hebron Church about the year 1856. When land, upon which to build the church, was needed, two men came forward with offers to donate the land. One owned exactly fifty acres of land, but under a law then in vogue at that time in the State of North Carolina, a person must own at least fifty acres of land to be able to vote; hence, in order that this would-be donor might not be disfranchised, his offer was refused.

The other offer came from Elder Thomas Long, who had a much larger farm and could safely donate a lot for the church and cemetery. His offer was accepted and upon his land the church was erected. The land which he gave had been inherited from his father and which had been a part of the estate of the Long family in

Davidson County for a number of generations.

A few years later, during the Civil War, when ministers were scarce and Hebron Church was suffering because there was no one to preach the Gospel, Mr. Long began to lead the congregation in its Sunday services as a sort of lay reader. So satisfactory was his service that he was licensed by the Classis of North Carolina on April 28, 1862, and ordained on the first Sunday in May, 1863, as pastor of the Davidson Charge, by a committee, consisting of Revs. G. W. Welker, Thornton Butler and Elder D. R. Hedrick.

This was his first and only Charge. Some years later when the original Charge was divided to form the Upper and Lower Davidson Charges, Mr. Long, upon being given his choice, chose to serve the Upper Davidson Charge (including his home congregation, Hebron) and was its pastor until 1886 or 1887, when he retired on account of bodily infirmities. His Charge never consisted of less than four congregations. He also preached at school-houses or in tabernacles erected in the forest.

For some time previous to his retirement when he was no longer able to stand in the pulpit, he preached from a sitting position. During his pastorate in the Upper Davidson Charge, two new churches were built.

He organized a congregation, Mt. Tabor, at the County poor-house, and served it until 1890, preaching from a special chair which had been made for him by the inmates.

During the whole of his pastoral career, Mr. Long never received a stated salary. He continued to live in his ancestral home and till his farm in connection with his ministerial labors.

He was awkward in the pulpit. He used few gestures, his language was simple, and he never used notes or a manuscript, but he im-

pressed his hearers with his earnestness and faith. His sermons had power and he was doctrinally sound. He was highly regarded by his parishioners and by his fellow-ministers in the North Carolina Classis. He was Treasurer of the Classis for many years.

Mr. Long died at his home near Winston-Salem, N. C., on December 25, 1898, at the age of eighty. Rev. H. A. M. Holshouser had charge of the funeral services, assisted by Revs. J. H. Shuford and by Rev. Lutz of the Lutheran Church. He was buried in the cemetery at Hebron Church.

When a young man, Mr. Long was married to Miss Elizabeth Ferguson, at the time that he began farming. They were the parents of four children.

After the death of his first wife, Mr. Long was married a second time to Miss Amanda Berrier. To them six children were born.

References: Messenger; January 26, 1899

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

History of the Southern Synod, by Rev. J. C. Leonard.

1899

REV. JOHN M. KESSLER

John M. Kessler was born of Swiss parentage at Reading, Pa., December 19, 1855. He was graduated from the High School at Reading in 1869 and from Mercersburg College, under the presidency of Rev. E. E. Higbee, in 1873. His family moved that year to Allentown and young Kessler entered a law office to prepare himself for a life career as an attorney. He finished his law course, was admitted to the Bar of Lehigh County and practiced his profession for ten years, 1875 - 1885.

In 1885 he entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster,

spending one year in the study of theology and was then licensed by Lehigh Classis in 1886. He was ordained by the same Classis in the same year as a missionary. He was sent to Greenville, Ohio, where he served a Mission Charge for one year. In 1887 he became pastor of the Mulberry, Ind., Charge, remaining in that pastoral relationship until the spring of 1897. Then he accepted a Call to the Bangor, Pa., Charge, but soon after beginning his labors there his health began to fail. He resigned in August, 1897, and returned to Allentown, residing in the home of his father-in-law until his death several months later.

He died in Allentown, Pa., of a pulmonary affection on January 19, 1899, at the age of forty-three. East Pennsylvania Classis, in whose domain his last Charge at Bangor lay, did not meet to dissolve the pastoral relation until after his death.

Funeral services were held on January 23. After a brief service at the home of his father-in-law, further services were held in St. John's Church in Allentown in charge of the pastor, Rev. S. G. Wagner, who preached the sermon. Rev. W. F. More, a close friend and class-mate, delivered an address. He was buried in the Union Cemetery in Allentown.

On May 10, 1883, Mr. Kessler was married to Miss Emma Ruhl of Allentown, who survived him.

References: Messenger; February 2, 1899

February 9, 1899

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. F. J. EMIL MUEHE

F. J. E. Muehe was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, January 11, 1865. At the age of eighteen he came to Baltimore, Md., to learn the carpenter trade. He worked at that occupation for several years in Baltimore. In the meantime he had become a member of the Sunday School of the Third Church, Baltimore, and soon afterwards was confirmed as a member of Third Church by the pastor, Rev. Conrad Clever.

It was his desire to become a minister, but was compelled to defer his hopes in that direction, partly because of his lack of education, but chiefly because there was doubt in his mind that he would be successful in that profession.

Finally in 1888, at the age of twenty-three, he determined to prepare himself for a pastoral career, leaving an occupation in which he was making a comfortable living to enter Mercersburg College, then under the presidency of Rev. G. W. Aughinbaugh. He studied here for four years and then entered the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, graduating in 1895.

He was licensed by Maryland Classis on May 18, 1895, and then, having accepted a Call to become pastor of the Reformed Church at McKeesport, Pa., was ordained and installed by Allegheny Classis in June of that same year.

However, his long years of preparation and of almost tragic privation on the part of himself and his wife were to end, not in a long happy pastoral career, but in a search for health after only one year of service in the ministry. In a year and four months after his ordination, the dread consumption had laid such deadly hold upon him that he was compelled to cease his pastoral activities and seek recovery. His congregation having granted him a leave of absence, he went first to North Carolina, then to Denver,

Colorado, in the hope that living in a high altitude would bring relief. In the meantime, he had resigned his pastorate, but his good people would not formally accept his withdrawal until in May, 1897, when it was evident that he would not be able to resume his duties among them for a long time, if ever. After leaving Denver, he resided for a time at Cincinnati, and then at Lancaster, where death overtook him on February 15, 1899, at the age of thirty-four.

Funeral services were held on February 17 in the Third Church, Baltimore. The pastor, Rev. Conrad Clever, who had confirmed and married Mr. Muehe, preached the sermon. Revs. W. I. Stewart, A. S. Weber and F. W. Bald assisted in the services. He was buried in the Loudon Park Cemetery, Baltimore.

In 1886, he was married to Miss Carrie Anderfuren of Baltimore, who, with four children, survived him.

References: Messenger; March 2, 1899

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. L. B. NERGER

L. B. Neger was born in Mechlinburg-Schwerin, Germany, August 19, 1860. He was well educated, having studied in the Universities of Berlin, Rostock and Leipzig.

He came to America in 1886 and became Assistant-Secretary of the German Y. M. C. A. in New York City, in which position he was employed from 1886 until 1890. In 1890 he became General Secretary of the German Y. M. C. A. in Philadelphia. In 1895 he resigned that office to enter Union Theological Seminary in New York City in preparation for the ministry.

In the spring of 1896 he was licensed by the German Philadelphia Classis, then came to Baltimore to be ordained by the German Maryland Classis, which rite was performed on August 9, 1896. He then entered upon a pastorate at Zion's Church, Baltimore, where he served until his death. Mr. Nerger died in Baltimore, February 19, 1899, at the age of thirty-eight.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. JOHN RETTIG

John Rettig was born at Baden, Germany, in the year 1830. He came to America with his parents in 1843, the family settling in Eastern Ohio.

Early in life he determined to become a minister, but we are not informed as to his preparatory education. At the age of nineteen, he presented himself to St. John's Classis for examination. This having proven satisfactory, he was licensed and ordained by that Classis at its annual meeting in 1849, and installed as pastor of the New Philadelphia, Ohio, Charge, which he served for thirteen years (1849 - 1862). On January 1, 1862, he became pastor at Crestline, Ohio. We do not know how long he was here, but by July, 1867, he had served at Crestline and another pastorate at Galion, Ohio. In July, 1867, he was already serving as pastor of the congregation at Wheatland, Iowa, and several other congregations in the vicinity.

While at Wheatland, he and his brother, George, who also was serving a pastorate in the Iowa Classis, became involved in the unfortunate dispute which had the effect of dividing Iowa Classis over the matter of language. The quarrel, which became bitter and personal, was ended in the withdrawal of the German congregations

and their organization into a new Classis.

After leaving Wheatland he served a pastorate at Auburn, Ind., and was pastor of St. John's Church, Indianapolis, Ind., in 1883.

Mr. Rettig was influential in the establishment of the Orphans' Home of the Reformed Church at Fort Wayne, Ind., which opened its doors for the reception of orphan children on October 3, 1883, and of which Mr. Rettig became the first Superintendent. He served in this capacity until his death. It was largely due to his great business ability and consecration to the work that the Fort Wayne Home was successful in its operations from the beginning. It is now one of the largest and most prosperous institutions of its kind in the Church.

Mr. Rettig died at the Home on February 15, 1899, at the age of sixty-nine, as the result of having taken accidentally a dose of carbohc acid, which he had mistaken for medicine.

Preliminary funeral services were held in the chapel of the Home on February 17, in charge of Revs. J. Hauser and E. Vornholt. Further services were held in St. John's Church, Fort Wayne, in charge of the pastor, Rev. J. H. Bosch, assisted by Revs. P. Ruhl and B. Ruf. Rev. John Bachman preached in German and Rev. B. S. Stern delivered an address in English. Six ministerial brethren served as pall-bearers. He was buried at Fort Wayne.

On May 25, 1850, Mr. Rettig was married to Miss Anna M. Schmeidel. His widow and eight children survived him.

Mr. Rettig was the brother of Rev. George Rettig, and the father of Revs. L. C. and John H. Rettig; all ministers of the Reformed Church.

References: Messenger; March 16, 1899

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. JESSE W. CECIL

It is difficult to present a satisfactory biography of Mr. Cecil because of the scarcity and incompleteness of the sources of information to which we have access; also the sources do not agree.

We do not ^{know} when or where he was born, or what educational advantages he enjoyed. Our first notice of him is his reception by the North Carolina Classis from the Methodist Church in 1862, as a "licentiate", (which probably means as a probationer). He was ordained by North Carolina Classis and installed in 1862 or 1863 as pastor of the West Rowan Charge, consisting of the China Grove, Mt. Zion (Savitz), Coldwater and Gilead congregations.

He left this Charge in 1864 and then went to the Thomasville, N. C., Charge, which he served until May, 1867. He then moved to Concord, N. C., for the purpose of organizing a Mission congregation in that place.

It must be that Mr. Cecil only did the preliminary work at that time toward the organization of a congregation, or that he was not successful in bringing about the organization. Dr. J. C. Leonard, in his "History of the Southern Synod" says that the congregation at Concord was not organized until 1884; also that Mr. Cecil was pastor there for one year during 1884 - 1885.

In 1885 he returned to Thomasville to live in retirement, however, serving as supply-pastor of Moffit's Grove congregation (now Calvary), near Thomasville. He also served the Lower Davidson Charge as supply for some time.

Mr. Cecil died at his home in Thomasville on March 5, 1899. Funeral services were held in Heidelberg Church, Thomasville, in charge of Rev. J. C. Leonard, who preached the sermon. Rev. W. H. Rich of the Baptist Church delivered an address. He was buried in

the Pine Woods Cemetery, Thomasville.

References: Messenger; March 16, 1899

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

History of the Southern Synod, by Rev.
J. C. Leonard.

REV. WILLIAM GOODRICH

William Goodrich was the son of George and Abigail (Prudens) Goodrich, and was born at New Hagerstown, Ohio, January 6, 1826. His early life was spent in attending public school and working on the farm, until, at the age of eighteen, he came East with his brother-in-law, Rev. Henry Harbaugh, who was then pastor of the Selinsgrove, Pa., Charge. He taught school in a district near Selinsgrove, making his home with Dr. Harbaugh and continuing his studies in preparation for college under Dr. Harbaugh's supervision. He entered Marshall College in 1847, graduating in 1851.

One account of his life says that he was a student in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, although the Seminary Register denies that he was ever a student in the Seminary.

He was licensed in the latter part of 1852 by Susquehanna Classis and began his ministerial career by serving the congregations at Columbia and Marietta, Pa., as a missionary pastor for one year and four months. He must have begun his service to these congregations before being licensed. He was then pastor of the New Providence, Pa., Charge for about a year.

In 1854 he became pastor of the Bloomsburg, Pa., Charge, which he served for eleven years and four months. During his service here a new church was erected at Fishing Creek Valley (dedicated, February, 1857), and a new parsonage was built at Orangeville for the use of the Charge.

In 1865, while still a comparatively young man, he entered the last Charge of his pastoral career, becoming pastor of the Clear Spring, Md., Charge, consisting of the St. John's congregation in the village, and the historic St. Paul's Church, two miles east of Clear Spring, and which was in existence when Michael Schlatter visited it before 1750.

He served here for the remainder of his life, enjoying a pleasant and successful pastorate of more than thirty-three years, loving his people and greatly beloved by them. New church buildings for each congregation were erected during his stay in this Charge. On December 1, 1895, he celebrated his thirtieth anniversary as pastor of this Charge.

Mr. Goodrich died, after an illness of considerable duration, at his home in Clear Spring, May 6, 1899, at the age of seventy-three. At the time of his death, Maryland Classis was meeting in its annual sessions. It was said that from 1865 until 1898, Mr. Goodrich had never missed attending the annual sessions of Classis.

At the funeral services at Clear Spring on May 8, a delegation of ministers from the Classis was in charge. Rev. J. Spangler Kieffer preached the sermon. Mr. Goodrich was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery near Clear Spring.

He was married on September 14, 1852, to Miss Caroline Elizabeth Straub, who survived him with seven children.

References: Messenger; May 11, 1899

May 25, 1899

Obituary Record, F. & M. College
Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900
History of Maryland Classis

REV. D. K. FULCASON

D. K. Fulcason was born at Aaronsburg, Pa., June 14, 1844. Both of his parents died before his fourth birthday, and he was reared by relatives.

After what education he was able to acquire in the common schools of the day, he continued his studies independently, being greatly encouraged and aided by his aunt. At the age of fourteen he began teaching school. Altogether he spent nine years as a teacher, two years and nine months of which were spent in teaching in the St. Paul's Orphans' Home. He was confirmed by Rev. Abner Dale.

In preparation for the ministry he studied for several years at Mt. Pleasant College under Dr. Theodore Appel and Dr. Herman. He studied theology privately under the supervision of Dr. Jeremiah H. Good.

Having completed his preparatory studies, he was ordained by the Synod of Ohio, at Shelbyville, Ill., in 1873. He began his pastoral work as a missionary in Shelby County, Ill., where he served for nine years..

He unfortunately was injured by being thrown from his horse; also suffered several strokes of paralysis. These afflictions incapacitated him to the extent that he was compelled to give the duties of the active ministry for a while.

After having somewhat recovered, he entered active pastoral life again by service in the Lone Tree, Iowa, Charge for a period of six years. Then he served at Orangeville, Ill., for one year, and later filled pastorates successively at North Hampton, Ohio, and at Leavittsville, Ohio. He resigned the last-named Charge, December 1, 1898, to retire from the active pastorate. His residence after retirement was at Warren, Ohio.

Mr. Fulcason died at his home in Warren, June 5, 1899, at the age of fifty-four. Funeral services were held at Warren on June 7, in charge of Revs. J. M. Kendig, G. E. Metger, E. H. Laubach and J. J. Gruber. He was buried at Warren.

References: Messenger; June 22, 1899

June 29, 1899

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. DEXTER B. ANDERSON

D. B. Anderson was born at Pierpont, N. Y., September 21, 1827. He was a student at Canton and Pottsdam, N. Y., and taught for several years in New York State. He then went west to enter Beloit College in Wisconsin.

He was ordained in 1859 at Frankfort, Minn., and served for a number of years as a pastor of the Baptist Church.

He became a minister of the Reformed Church some years before his death, living in retirement at Lisbon, Iowa. He never held a pastorate in the Reformed Church, although he performed some ministerial labor in that denomination when there was opportunity.

He died on June 17, 1899, at the age of seventy-one, while on a visit to the Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown, Iowa. He was buried at Lisbon.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

REV. WILLIAM M. LANDIS

W. M. Landis was born in Springfield Township, Bucks County, Pa., April 17, 1836. His early education was not too complete; his biographers say that he secured it as best he could, which probably

means that he needed no prodding from the outside, nor did he have to depend upon formal courses of study, already outlined; but driven by an urge from within, he used every opportunity within his reach to prepare himself for the career which early in life he had chosen for himself - the Christian ministry. These qualities adequately manifested themselves all through his pastoral life. He was an effective, although not an eloquent preacher. His strength lay in his willingness to do hard work, and not to shirk when the task at hand could only be accomplished by exhausting labor. As a builder of congregations, as well as of churches and parsonages, he stands in the highest place among the ministers of the Reformed Church.

He was a student in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg from 1861 to 1863. He was licensed by Goshenhoppen Classis in 1864 and entered upon his pastoral work in the Harmony, Pa., Charge, which at the time of his coming to it was not in a prosperous condition. At the beginning of his pastorate it was under the care of the Board of Home Missions. He was formally ordained and installed in 1865 by St. Paul's Classis.

In his first pastoral Charge, Mr. Landis had to be organist, leader of the singing and Superintendent of the Sunday School, as well as pastor. At the time of his resignation in 1870, the Charge had been brought to self-support and enjoyed the reputation of making the largest per-capita contributions for benevolences in the whole of Pittsburgh Synod.

Mr. Landis' next field was at Lykens, Pa., where there was not even a congregation. He was pastor here only one year, but in that short time a congregation of sixty members had been organized and a church building and parsonage erected.

In 1872 he became pastor of the Rebersburg, Pa., Charge, which

he served for eleven years (1872 - 1883). This was a large and scattered field of five congregations in a mountainous country, but again the result of his hard work as a builder was very evident. During his service in this Charge, three new churches and a parsonage were erected, and two church buildings repaired. His next field was in the Beaver Springs Charge in Snyder County, Pa.. Here again he served five congregations for fifteen years (1883 - 1898), built three new churches and a parsonage, and repaired two churches. At the time of his resignation, not a cent of debt rested upon any congregation in that Charge.

In 1898 he resigned and retired from the active ministry, to make his home, first at Allentown and later at Altoona. He died while visiting friends in Rebersburg, July 19, 1899, at the age of sixty-three.

The funeral services were held at Rebersburg on July 24. At the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Weaver, where Mr. Landis had died, Rev. M. N. George conducted a brief service. Further services were held in the church at Rebersburg in charge of Rev. W. A. Haas, who preached the sermon. Rev. D. M. Wolf delivered an address. He was buried at Rebersburg.

Mr. Landis was survived by his widow and three children. His son, Rev. William H. Landis, was for many years a minister of the Reformed Church.

References: Messenger; August 3, 1899

August 10, 1899

August 17, 1899

August 31, 1899

Reformed Church Record

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1900

LIC. URSINUS WILLIAM D. YEARICK

U. W. D. Yearick, the son of a minister, the brother of two ministers, and the brother-in-law of a minister, was born at Hublersburg, Pa., where his father was pastor of the Reformed Church, March 21, 1858. He was the son of Rev. William R. and Susan Yearick, both devoted servants of the Reformed Church.

He was confirmed by his father at the Hilltown Church, and after having made due preparation for college, entered the Freshman Class of Franklin and Marshall College in 1877. At the end of his Sophomore year he was compelled to leave college on account of the illness of his father, and for a year engaged in clerical and commercial work.

He returned to college in 1880, finishing the course in 1882. Then again his preparation for the ministry was interrupted for several years. Finally in 1896, he entered the Moravian Theological Seminary at South Bethlehem, Pa., where he spent one year. He then transferred to the Seminary at Lancaster, graduating in the Class of 1899. In June of that year he was licensed by East Pennsylvania Classis.

However, his health was not good, so he remained in Lancaster for medical treatment, living at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Greiner. He rapidly became worse and passed away at the home of his friends in Lancaster on August 20, 1899, before ever having had an opportunity of entering the Christian ministry.

His funeral took place on August 23, with interment at South Bethlehem, Pa.

He was the son of Rev. W. R. Yearick, the brother of Revs. Zwingli A. and Jonas L. Yearick, and the brother-in-law of Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Land, all faithful ministers of the Reformed Church.

References: Messenger; August 24, 1899

References (continued) Messenger; September 14, 1899
Seminary Register

REV. ALFRED G. BERKY (BERKEY)

A. G. Berky was born in Bucks County, Pa., November 6, 1856. He was baptized in infancy and at the age of eighteen was confirmed as a member of Zionville Church by Rev. R. S. Appel.

Having early in life determined to enter the ministry, he entered the Perkiomen Seminary at Pennsburg for the purpose of preparing for college. He entered Heidelberg College at Tiffin, Ohio, in 1880, being graduated with the Class of 1884. He then became a student in the Heidelberg Theological Seminary, also at Tiffin, from which institution he was graduated in 1886. He was licensed in 1886 by St. John's Classis, and having accepted a call to the Waynesburg, Ohio, Charge, he was duly ordained and installed by the same Classis in August, 1886.

He served at Waynesburg for almost four years; then on January 1, 1890, he became pastor of the Upper Sandusky, Ohio, Charge. After a pastorate here of four years, he moved in March, 1894, to the Tuscarawas Charge at Massillon, Ohio, which he served until his death.

He died at his home in Massillon, Ohio, October 16, 1899, at the age of forty-three. He was survived by his widow and one child.

References: Messenger; 1890, 1894

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

1900

REV. HENRY St. JOHN RINKER

H. S. Rinker, son of Jacob and Mary Rinker, was born at Wood-

stock, Va., February 28, 1819. The name "Rinker" has been well-known for many generations in the Valley of Virginia. Those bearing the name have always been faithful and loyal members of the Reformed Church.

H. S. Rinker was baptized in infancy by Rev. George Leidy, and confirmed on October 29, 1837, by Rev. Jacob F. Dieffenbacher. These two ministers were pioneers in the development of the Reformed Church in the State of Virginia in the early part of the nineteenth century.

Very early in life he expressed a desire to dedicate his life to the Gospel ministry. He began his preparation by attending the Academy at Woodstock, and then entered the High School at York, where he spent two years. In 1837 he was a member of the Freshman Class at Marshall College. On account of illness and lack of funds he did not graduate from college, but returned home in 1839 and taught school at Woodstock for three years, meanwhile studying theology privately.

In the spring of 1842 he was licensed by Virginia Classis and commissioned to do missionary work in the territory of the Valley of Virginia, between Timberville and Edinburg, and between the Massanutten and North Mountains. This area was in the heart of what is now the stronghold of the Reformed Church in Virginia.

After he had spent two years in this kind of labor, Virginia Classis ordained and installed him on May 18, 1844, as pastor of the Mill Creek Charge, consisting of seven congregations: Zion's, St. Jacob's, Pine, Columbia Furnace, Union Forge, Rader's and Solomon's. He served this laborious Charge for a period of twenty-eight years.

In 1854, however, he was afforded some relief in the coming of Rev. Joseph Hannaberry to serve as his assistant. Two years later

Mr. Hannaberry returned to Pennsylvania, so for four years longer Mr. Rinker continued to minister to the original seven congregations as before. Then in 1860 Virginia Classis detached two of the congregations to constitute the Edinburg Charge.

Mr. Rinker finally severed his connection with his first pastoral Charge in 1874, when he resigned to become pastor of St. James congregation at Lovettsville, Va., and of several adjacent congregations.

The Minutes of the proceedings of Virginia Classis for 1870 record that Mr. Rinker submitted his resignation as pastor of the Mill Creek Charge. Classis formally dissolved the pastoral relation and passed a resolution, offering sympathy to him on account of the "terrible affliction" which had overtaken him. This probably refers to an illness so severe that Mr. Rinker thought he would be incapacitated for further pastoral service. If this be true, Mr. Rinker recovered, and by further action of Classis, he resumed his pastoral activities, for in 1872 he is listed as pastor of the Mill Creek Charge, and so continued until 1874.

In October, 1890, Mr. Rinker resigned the Lovettsville Charge and retired to spend the remainder of his life quietly at his residence in Maurertown, Va. He died at his home, January 31, 1900, at the age of eighty years and eleven months.

Funeral services were held at Woodstock on February 2, in charge of Rev. N. H. Skyles, who preached the sermon from the text: Second Timothy, Chapter 4, Verses 7 and 8. Addresses were delivered by Revs. J. H. Hoffheins and Henry Ditzler. Thirteen ministers were present, of whom six served as pall-bearers. He was buried at Maurertown.

Mr. Rinker was married, July 7, 1840, to Miss Mary Fravel,

daughter of Jonathan and Mary Fravel of Woodstock. In 1890, just before he retired, Mr. and Mrs. Rinker celebrated at Lovettsville the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding. They were the parents of thirteen children, eleven of whom survived him. Mrs. Rinker died April 7, 1895.

At the time of his death Mr. Rinker was the oldest member of Virginia Classis, within the bounds of which his whole ministerial service was given. For more than a quarter of a century he was the Stated Clerk and Treasurer of the Classis.

His pastoral work was much interrupted by the Civil War. Almost constantly troops of both armies were passing North or South, or occupying the territory of his parish. His people suffered great financial loss from the unbridled depredations of the soldiers and camp followers. On one occasion Mr. Rinker was arrested by soldiers of the Northern Army and confined in the Woodstock jail for about ten days.

References: Messenger; February 8, 1900

February 15, 1900

March 15, 1900

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. JACOB HASSLER, D. D.

Jacob Hassler, the fifth child and third son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Kieffer) Hassler, was born at Mercersburg, Pa., August 24, 1824. Through his mother he was related to the Kieffer family, prominent in Franklin County, Pa., a century ago; a family which gave a number of men to the ministry of the Reformed Church. His father was a master-carpenter and cabinet-maker. He built many of the largest houses in Mercersburg. He was prominent in the affairs of the

Reformed Church at Mercersburg, holding for many years the office of Elder. He was especially interested in having Marshall College located in the community. He was a member of the committee to guarantee the fund that was promised for the erection of buildings for the College. Among the many who subscribed large sums for this purpose, he was one of four to pay his subscription in full.

Jacob Hassler, the son, was baptized in infancy, and confirmed in 1842 by Rev. C. F. McCauley. He entered Marshall College in 1841, graduating with the Class of 1845. While a student in college, he helped to collect funds for the Hall of the Goethean Literary Society of which he was an enthusiastic member. After graduation from college, he spent one year as private tutor in a family of Washington County, Md. He entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1846, graduating in 1848.

On August 14, 1849 he was licensed by Maryland Classis. For several months in the year of 1849 he was assistant to his cousin, Rev. Moses Kieffer, who was pastor of the Reformed Church at Hagerstown, Md. Then for six months, he was agent for the Publication Board at Chambersburg, engaged in promoting the circulation of the church papers. He was ordained by Mercersburg Classis on December 4, 1850. On the first day of August, 1850, while still a licentiate, he began pastoral service in the congregations at Fort Loudon, Fanettsburg and St. Thomas, residing, however, at Mercersburg. During his pastorate in the Fort Loudon Charge, a new church was built at St. Thomas.

In 1858 he resigned to accept a Call to the Martinsburg, Pa. Charge, which he served until October 1, 1863; also served as a teacher in the Martinsburg Academy. In this Charge a new church was built at Martinsburg during his term of service.

From October 1, 1863 until August 1, 1869, he was pastor of the

Shippensburg, Pa., Charge, and then in 1869 became pastor of the Boonsboro, Md., Charge, consisting of congregations at Boonsboro and Funkstown. During his pastorate in this Charge a new church was built in Boonsboro, at a reported cost of Sixteen Thousand Dollars (Six Thousand is nearer the correct figure). He resigned at Boonsboro, August 1, 1873.

This was the last field to be served by Mr. Hassler as a regular pastor. Upon his resignation at Boonsboro, he returned to Mercersburg in order that he might reside near suitable educational institutions for the convenience of his children. Upon his return to Mercersburg in 1873, he founded the Mercersburg Female Academy, which was in operation until 1880, when at the closing of Mercersburg College as an institution of standard college grade, upon the withdrawal of Dr. E. E. Higbee, the new Mercersburg College of Junior College Grade, under the presidency of Dr. G. W. Aughinbaugh, became co-educational. Mr. Hassler then retired to reside at Mercersburg, although from 1876 until 1894, he supplied the congregations at Fort Loudon, Fannettsburg and Lehmasters. During his time of supply service a new church was built at Fort Loudon and the church building at Fannettsburg underwent extensive repairs. In 1894 he moved to Fort Loudon and resided there until his death. Mr. Hassler died at his home in Fort Loudon, February 5, 1900, at the age of seventy-five.

On December 5, 1855, Mr. Hassler was married to Miss Matilda Stenger of Fort Loudon, who survived him with three children. Rev. E. S. Hassler, for many years a minister of the Reformed Church, was his son.

In 1884, Mr. Hassler received from Franklin and Marshall College the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was a member of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg from

1856 until 1870.

References: Messenger; February 15, 1900

Seminary Register

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History of Maryland Classis

REV. FRANK NELSON BLEILER

F. N. Bleiler, son of Augustus B. and Loretta Bleiler, was born in the village of Overton in Bradford County, Pa., January 9, 1865. He was baptized in infancy and confirmed in due time as a member of the Reformed Church by Rev. Phaon Kohler. In his early childhood, his parents moved to a farm in Sullivan County, Pa., where he was reared.

Early in life he decided upon the ministry as his life career. Accordingly, in 1888, he entered the Towanda, Pa., Collegiate Institute, where he spent two years. In 1891 he became a student at Ursinus College, and in 1893 entered the Ursinus School of Theology.

He was licensed in May, 1894, by Wyoming Classis, and ordained August 19 of that same year by Philadelphia Classis as pastor of Brownback's Church in Chester County. Here he served for three and a half years. By this time his health had become poor on account of tuberculosis, which soon caused his death before middle age. He left Brownback's Church in the latter part of 1897 or the beginning of the year 1898, and then after a year spent in rest at the home of his parents, he became pastor on April 9, 1899, of the East Vincent Charge in Chester County, near Phoenixville, Pa. When he came into this Charge, a new church building was in process of erection. On the day of dedication a few months later, he

was unable to attend the dedicatory services on account of the disease, which by this time had developed to the point where it was evident that Mr. Bleiler could not long survive. He died at his home, February 27, 1900, at the age of thirty-five.

Funeral services were held at his home on March 4, in charge of Rev. H. H. Long. Rev. J. M. Rosenberg delivered an address. Further services at Brownback's Church were in charge of Rev. G. H. Miller. Rev. J. H. Sechler, professor in the Ursinus School of Theology, preached the sermon. Revs. H. H. Long and G. H. Miller delivered addresses. Revs. I. C. Fisher and G. W. Royer assisted in the services. He was buried in the cemetery connected with Brownback's Church. Twelve ministers attended the funeral services.

On October 30, 1897, Mr. Bleiler was married to Miss Anna Frock, Rev. G. H. Miller officiating. His widow survived him.

References: Messenger; March 8, 1900

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REV. CALVIN O. KOHLER

C. O. Kohler was born at Vera Cruz, Ind., June 12, 1868. As a child he worked on his father's farm and secured his preliminary education in the public schools of the vicinity of his home.

In 1890 he entered the Mission House at Franklin, Wisc., spending eight years in all as a student successively in the Preparatory Department, the College, and the Seminary, graduating from the Theological Seminary of the Mission House in June, 1898. In September of that year he was licensed by Zion's (German) Classis and was ordained and installed on November 24, 1898, as pastor of the Findlay, Ohio, Charge. After a brief pastorate of only a little more than a year, he died at Findlay (cause not known) on March

26, 1900, at the age of thirty-one. He was buried at Vera Cruz.

On September 28, 1898, he was married to Miss Frances R. Hecke, who, with one child, survived him.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. ALFRED B. SHENKEL (SHENKLE)

A. B. Shenkel was born at Unionville, Chester County, Pa., March 27, 1815. We know nothing of his early life or of his preparatory education until he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1845, where he spent two years. He was licensed and ordained (on the same day) in September 1847, by Philadelphia Classis.

From June, 1848, until 1867 he was pastor of the Trappe, Pa., Charge and Vincent congregation. In 1852 a complaint was filed against him by the Limerick congregation, which was not sustained by the Philadelphia Classis. We do not know why the complaint was made, but whatever may have been the reason, Mr. Shenkel ceased to serve that congregation after 1853. After his resignation at Trappe, he was pastor for about a year (1867 - 1868) of the East Voncent Charge and supply of the Phoenixville congregation. From 1869 until 1878, he was pastor of the Millersville, Pa., Charge. During his service here, the new Zion Reformed Church at Millersville was built.

In 1878 he organized a congregation at Willow Street, Pa., and built a church. We are not sure how long he served at Willow Street, but he is listed as pastor of that Charge (Willow Street) in 1885. He probably served it until ¹⁸⁸⁷ his final retirement in 1893. From 1869, however, until his death, he always resided at Millersville. For a number of years until 1893, he was supply-

pastor of Zion Reformed Church at Marietta, Pa.

Mr. Shenkel died at his home in Millersville, April 22, 1900, at the age of eighty-five. Funeral services at the home on April 26 were in charge of Revs. B. Howard Roth and William Rupp. At Zion Church Revs. J. H. Pannebecker and E. N. Kremer had charge of the services. Rev. B. Howard Roth, pastor of the church, preached the sermon. Also, Revs. H. T. Spangler and J. W. Meminger delivered addresses. Revs. A. M. Schmidt and J. M. Titzel participated in the services. Fourteen ministers were in attendance, of whom six served as pall-bearers. He was buried at Millersville.

In April, 1851, Mr. Shenkel was married to Miss Elizabeth Wack, who died in November, 1864. He was married a second time in November, 1865, to Miss Mary L. Longacre, who died in December, 1894.

References: Messenger; April 26, 1900

May 3, 1900

May 10, 1900

Seminary Register

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. WILLIAM R. HUMPHREY DEATRICK, D. D.

W. R. H. Deatrick, the son of John and Mary (Brazil) Deatrick, was born at St. Thomas, Pa., June 26 (or 28), 1834. His ancestors came to America in the eighteenth century from the Palatinate on the Rhine.

He was baptized by Rev. Frederick Rahauser, September 14, 1834, and confirmed, May 4, 1850, as a member of the Reformed Church at St. Thomas by Rev. N. Gehr.

He was a student at the Marshall Collegiate Institute, under the presidency of Rev. J. R. Kookan, at Mercersburg for two years,

and then for two years at the Franklin Institute at Chambersburg. He then studied theology for two years under the supervision of Rev. Samuel Philips, pastor of the Reformed Church at Chambersburg, receiving at the same time valuable help and instruction from Revs. S. R. Fisher, B. S. Schneck and B. Bausman, all of whom at the time were connected with the office of the Publication Board at Chambersburg.

He was licensed by Mercersburg Classis, May 22, 1860. On November 17 of that same year he was ordained by the same Classis and installed pastor of the Grindstone Hill Charge, consisting of congregations situated south of Chambersburg.

He served this his first Charge for three and a half years, until April, 1864. He then became pastor of the Gettysburg, Pa., Charge, where he remained until October, 1873 (nine and one half years). Then from October 1, 1873 to October 1, 1881, he was pastor of the Mechanicsburg, Pa., Charge. He then accepted a Call to the Newport - New Bloomfield, Pa., Charge, consisting of three congregations. He served here until April 1, 1897.

In that year the Charge was divided, the New Bloomfield congregation having been constituted a pastoral charge alone. Mr. Deatricks then continued to serve the New Bloomfield congregation until his death.

Mr. Deatricks died at his home in New Bloomfield on May 2, 1900. On Sunday, April 22, he was seized with an attack of paralysis in the pulpit while preaching. He was removed to his home and lay unconscious for about five hours. Later he revived and appeared to be recovering. A second attack brought death quickly.

Funeral services at his home on May 5 were in charge of Revs. J. D. Miller and W. H. Groh. Further services were held in the church at New Bloomfield in charge of Rev. J. D. Miller, who

preached the sermon. Revs. E. N. Kremer, S. H. Stein, A. C. Whitmer and C. H. Brandt assisted in the services. He was buried at Newport.

Mr. Deatrick was married to Miss Mary Clark Maxwell of St. Thomas who died February 8, 1900. One child survived.

In 1896 Mr. Deatrick received the honorary degree of doctor of divinity from Franklin and Marshall College. He was Stated Clerk of Zion's Classis for seventeen years, a member of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster from 1877 until 1887; also served for some years on the Board of Missions of the Synod of the Potomac.

References: Messenger; May 10, 1900

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. JAMES W. MABRY

J. W. Mabry was born at Mertztown, Pa., June 22, 1853. He was graduated from Ursinus College in 1877 and from the Ursinus School of Theology in 1879. He was licensed in 1879 by East Pennsylvania Classis, and then, preceding ordination, served as a short time as supply-pastor of the Minersville, Pa., Charge.

In January, 1880, he was elected pastor of the Kreidersville Charge in Northampton County, Pa.. Having accepted this Call he was ordained and installed in May, 1880, establishing his residence at Cherryville, Pa. He served this his first Charge to the end of his life.

Mr. Mabry died at his residence in Cherryville, May 16, 1900, at the age of forty-six. Funeral services were held at his late home on May 23, in charge of Rev. H. A. Frantz. Revs. H. A. Frantz,

J. E. Smith, and T. O. Stem delivered addresses.

Further services were held in Longswamp Church at Mertztown, in charge of Rev. N. W. Helffrich, who also preached in German. Addresses in English were delivered by Revs. H. T. Spangler and G. W. Richards. Rev. J. I. Good assisted in the services. He was buried in the cemetery connected with Longswamp Church. Thirty-one ministers attended the funeral.

Mr. Mabry was married to Miss Stamm, who, with one daughter, survived him.

References: Messenger; May 24, 1900

May 31, 1900

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. CARL AUGUST LIMBERG

C. A. Limberg, the son of Frederick Wilhelm and Joanna Limberg, was born at Elberfeld, Germany, December 25, 1824. He was baptized in infancy and during his youth was confirmed a member of the Reformed Church. From 1844 until 1847 he was a soldier in the German Army.

In 1848 he came to America, locating in Wisconsin. Of his life in America until 1853, his preliminary education or his previous occupation, we have no knowledge, except that for some time he was a farmer and merchant. In 1853 he entered the Heidelberg Theological Seminary at Tiffin, studying in that institution for one year, being licensed in 1854.

He served first the Luthersburg Charge in Crawford County, residing at Troutville, Pa. Here he served for ten years (1854 - 1864); then in 1864 he became pastor of St. Paul's German Church

at Butler, Pa., serving also the congregation at Brady's Bend and the congregation at Prospect, Pa., as part of his Charge. In 1871 he relinquished the congregation at Butler, retaining, however, the other two, and serving also as supply a Presbyterian congregation six miles from Butler.

In 1873 he resigned to accept a Call from a German congregation in Brooklyn, N. Y., , but was compelled to leave Brooklyn after six months on account of illness. This must have been a Presbyterian congregation, since he was dismissed to the Presbyterian Church in 1873. In July, 1874 he returned to live at Butler and to serve as pastor of the congregation at Brady's Bend. He continued in this relationship until his retirement in 1897 on account of ill health and old age.

In 1867 he became the first Superintendent of St. Paul's Orphans' Home at Butler, in connection with his pastoral duties. His superintendency extended over a period of four years (1867 - 1871), during which time he received not any or very little compensation for his services.

In 1894 he was paralyzed, with a consequent locomotor ataxia condition, which made it impossible for him to walk or stand without assistance. However, he continued to preach from a sitting position until 1897.

He died at his home in Butler, June 13, 1900, at the age of seventy-five. The funeral services on June 16 were in charge of Rev. D. N. Harnish. Rev. C. Borchert preached a German sermon and Rev. C. R. Dieffenbacher preached in English. Five other ministers also attended the services. He was buried at Butler.

Mr. Limberg was married, March 18, 1851, at Brooklyn, to Miss Bertha Schmidt, a native of Barmen, Prussia. She died in Europe in June, 1859, while she and Mr. Limberg were making a visit to

that Continent. He was married a second time on May 3, 1860, to Miss Susanna Kuntz, who survived him with ten children.

References: Messenger; July 5, 1900

September 13, 1900

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. RICHARD BITTLE REICHARD

R. B. Reichard was born near Pymont, Montgomery County, Ohio, January 4, 1848. His childhood was spent on a farm near Lewisburg, Ohio. At the age of nineteen he was confirmed a member of the Reformed Church by Rev. H. M. Herman.

He entered Heidelberg College at Tiffin in 1869, graduating in 1873. He then spent one year as a student in the Heidelberg Theological Seminary.

He was licensed by the Synod of Ohio in October, 1874, and ordained on December 20 of that same year as pastor of the Greenville, Ohio, Charge. Here he spent two years, and then in December, 1876, became pastor of the Springboro, Ohio, Charge. He left the Springboro Charge in February, 1882, to accept a Call to the Highland, Ohio, Charge.

We are not sure of the length of his service in several Charges after leaving Highland. From 1882 until April, 1894, he had been pastor successively at Highland, New Lisbon, Swanders and New Madison, all in Ohio.

In 1894 he seems to have retired to make his home in Dayton, but for six years served as supply-pastor of the Mt. Carmel congregation near Dayton.

He died at his home in Dayton, June 23, 1900, at the age of fifty-two. He is buried at Greenville, Ohio.

On January 4, 1876, he was married to Miss Ella E. Steele of Greenville. His widow and three sons survived him. For a number of years he was Stated Clerk of Miami Classis.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. ROBERT LISBERGER

Robert Lisberger was born at Lich Grosz, Herzogthum, Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, June 24, 1830. For several generations before him his ancestors were ministers of the Reformed Church. In keeping, therefore, with the family tradition and example, no other career except the Christian ministry presented itself to him. It was as natural for him to think of himself as being a minister as it was for him to think of being his father's son.

At the proper age he entered the University of Giessen and later was a student at the University at Frankfort-on-the-Main, in preparation for his life's work. However, because he had not sufficient funds, he was compelled to interrupt his university studies and give up, for the time at least, the hope of a pastoral career, a matter of great regret to him and, no doubt, the chief reason for his coming to America. Feeling that there was nothing better for him in his then present environment, he decided to seek his fortune in a new country. Accordingly he arrived in New York City in 1853, friendless, homeless and penniless.

He found his way to Reading, Pa., where he secured employment in the office of the "Reading Adler", as printed and writer. Here he spent six years.

It was at this time, too, that he discovered and developed his almost unbelievable poetic ability. He was a natural poet. It is said that even his most prosaic utterances were clothed with a poet-

ic charm, as well as expressed in poetic language. He was able to compose his poetry while standing before a font of type, expressing himself in beautiful poetry as he set the type which gave utterance to his poetic soul.

After spending six years in a printing establishment, he moved to Maxatawny in Berks County, to study theology under the supervision of Rev. Charles G. Herman, and making his home with the Herman family. After three years in theological study, he was licensed, March 10, 1863.

He was ordained August 20, 1863, as assistant to Rev. J. S. Herman, pastor of the Kutztown Charge. After one year in this service, he became assistant for another year to Rev. John Gantenbein in the Kreidersville Charge. In 1865 he became pastor of the Kreidersville Charge and here he served to the end of his life. Also, from 1872, he preached for twenty-five years at Oxford Furnace. He, also, from 1878 served a congregation at Bushkin Center, who built a church especially for him to preach in, and were constrained to erect the building only after his promise that he would serve them as their pastor.

Mr. Lisberger's pastoral life was extremely happy. He was popular among his people who loved and followed him with an intense loyalty.

For two years before his death, he was not as active as before, and in 1899 suffered a stroke of paralysis. A year later he was paralyzed again and died soon afterwards. His death occurred at his home in Bath, Pa., where he had resided since 1876, on June 27, 1900, at the age of seventy years and three days.

At the funeral services at Snyder's (St. Peter's) Church, near Bath, Rev. D. E. Schoedler preached the sermon. Rev. R. C. Weaver,

assisted by several other ministers, conducted the services. He was buried in the cemetery connected with Snyder's Church.

In 1865, Mr. Lisberger was married to Miss Lydia Boyer of Kreidersville, who died August 4, 1885. He was married a second time in 1893 to Mrs. Louise Gortmüller of New York City, who survived him. Mr. Lisberger's son, Rev. G. O. Lisberger, was for many years a minister of the Reformed Church. Rev. J. O. Lindaman was his son-in-law.

Referenced: Messenger; July 5, 1900

July 12, 1900

August 9, 1900

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. GEORGE ROBERT ZACHARIAS

G. R. Zacharias, son of George and Mary (Seidel) Zacharias, was born five miles east of Reading, Pa., in Berks County, September 20, 1823. In 1846 he entered the Preparatory Department of Marshall College, where he spent two years. He then became a student in the College, being graduated from Marshall College in 1852.

He then went West, locating in Hardin County, Iowa, spending three years working at the carpenter trade (1852 - 1855) and three years as a machinist (1855 - 1858). In 1858 he returned home and entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1860.

He was licensed by Lebanon Classis in 1860, and in that same year, having accepted a Call from the Upper Strasburg, Pa., Charge, was ordained and installed by Mercersburg Classis in 1861. This Charge consisted of four congregations, located respectively at Fannettsburg, Keefer's, Horse Valley and Upper Strasburg.

His pastoral career was brief. After less than two years in the active ministry, ill health in the fall of 1863 compelled him to resign his Charge, whereupon he retired to his farm near Upper Strasburg, there to spend the next twenty-five years in agricultural pursuits. In 1888 he left the farm to live in complete retirement in the village of Upper Strasburg for the remainder of his life.

Mr. Zacharias died suddenly of apoplexy at his home on August 24, 1900, at the age of seventy-six. At the funeral services at Epler's Church on August 28, in the community where he was born east of Reading, Rev. S. R. Breidenbaugh was in charge and preached the sermon. He was buried in the family lot in Epler's Church Cemetery.

He was married on May 7, 1863, to Mrs. Mary (Speck) Bigler, who died in 1891.

References: Messenger; August 30, 1900

Seminary Register

Obituary Record, F. & M. College

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1901

REV. GEORGE WASHINGTON WILLIARD, D. D., LL. D.

G. W. Williard was a descendant of a Huguenot family who emigrated to America in the eighteenth century and settled in the western part of Frederick County, Md., just east of South Mountain and about two miles north of the Potomac River. His family has long been a respected and prominent one in that part of the State.

He was the son of John and Marie (Shafer) Williard and was born on his father's farm near Burkittsville, Md., June 10, 1818. He

was confirmed a member of the Reformed Church by Rev. J. C. Bucher.

His childhood and youth were spent in hard work on the farm, acquiring what education he could in the schools of his community, which he himself designated as poor, offering only the "Three R's".

When he was sixteen years old his father died and the family abandoned farming to live in the village of Burkittsville. This gave him an opportunity to secure further education in preparation for the Christian ministry, to which he had early dedicated himself. When his brother, Henry, who was a student in the Theological Seminary at York, returned to continue his studies in the Seminary, the younger brother accompanied him to enter the High School at York. When the High School was moved to Mercersburg in 1835 to become Marshall College, Mr. Williard continued his work there, graduating from Marshall College in 1838. He spent the next two years at the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1840.

Mr. Williard in his autobiography says that he was licensed by the Synod at its meeting in Greencastle, Pa., in October, 1840. If so, he must have been licensed twice, for the records of Maryland Classis say that he was licensed by that Body on May 17, 1840, at its meeting at Clear Spring, Md. He was ordained October 31, 1840, by Maryland Classis and ordained as pastor of the Jefferson, Md., Charge (The first pastor of the newly constituted pastoral Charge, consisting of the Jefferson, Loudon in Virginia, and Manor congregations). Here he labored for a little more than four years. In consequence of some trouble with the Consistory of the Jefferson congregation, Mr. Williard resigned in the latter part of the year 1844, and then supplied the Funkstown, Md., Congregation for six

months. In 1845 he became pastor of the Huntingdon, Pa., Charge, with congregations at Huntingdon and McConnellstown. While here he also was principal of the Huntingdon Academy.

After less than two years at Huntingdon, he resigned because the climate was not well-suited to the health of his wife, and sought a pastorate farther south. In March, 1847, he became pastor of the Winchester, Va., Charge, consisting of congregations at Winchester and Smithville, which he served for three years (until 1850).

In 1850 he went West to serve the Columbus, Ohio, Charge for nearly five years. On January 1, 1855, he assumed the pastorate of the Dayton, Ohio, Charge, consisting of the First Church in Dayton, and the Mt. Bethel congregation in the vicinity. After five years, on account of the great amount of labor involved in serving this field, at his request the Charge was divided; Mr. Williard continuing to serve the Mt. Bethel congregation, together with the Mt. Carmel Church which had lately been organized. He served this Charge until 1866.

In 1866 he was elected President of Heidelberg College, which position he accepted and in September of that year moved to Tiffin. Here he served for twenty-four years (1866 - 1890), conducting the affairs of the College and Seminary in a most successful manner. His achievements consisted mainly in the erection of needed buildings, the amassing of a fund of more than One Hundred Thousand Dollars, and in raising the level of work done in the institution to the point that ever afterwards, Heidelberg has been rated as a standard college.

In 1890 he severed his connection with Heidelberg to accept the Professorship of Ethics and Apologetics in Ursinus College and Theological School. In August, 1891, he was elected temporary-

President of Ursinus College, a position which he continued to fill until June, 1893. He then resigned as President and Professor to live in retirement at Lancaster, Pa.

However, in 1895, although at the time he was seventy-seven years of age, upon being challenged to return to Dayton to organize the Fifth Church of that city, he accepted the challenge. He completed the organization, erected a fine church building, and to the time of his resignation had increased its membership from eight to three hundred and fifty. This church building, toward which Dr. Williard contributed more than one third of the cost, was dedicated as a memorial to his second wife. It is known today as Memorial Church, Dayton.

In 1898 he finally retired and continued to live at Dayton, until his death. Dr. Williard died on September 17, 1900, at the age of eighty-two.

The funeral services on September 20, at his late home, were in charge of Rev. D. Berghalter, his successor at Memorial Church, and of Rev. C. E. Wehler, pastor of Trinity Church, Dayton. Further services were held in Memorial Church. Dr. W. A. Hale preached the sermon. Addresses were delivered by Revs. D. Berghalter, Ross F. Wicks and C. E. Wehler. Rev. David Van Horne assisted in the services. He was buried in the Woodlawn Cemetery, Dayton.

Dr. Williard was married three times: First, on April 21, 1841, to Miss Louisa C. Little, daughter of Dr. P. W. Little of Mercersburg. She died at Dayton, September 10, 1863; Second, in February, 1866, to Miss Emily Hivling, Rev. P. C. Prugh officiating. She was the daughter of Col. J. Hivling of Xenia, Ohio, and died in 1891; Third, on October 27, 1892, by Rev. J. W. Meminger, to Miss Mary E. Gormley of Lancaster, who survived him.

Dr. Williard and his first wife were the parents of five chil-

dren, one of whom, Rev. E. R. Williard, was a minister of the Reformed Church. Rev. Henry Williard, who served the Reformed Church in Ohio as a pastor for many years, was a brother.

In 1866 Mr. Williard received from Franklin and Marshall College the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity; and in 1888 the degree of Doctor of Laws from Monmouth College.

In addition to a service of many busy years as a pastor, college president and professor, and for thirteen years as Editor of the "Western Missionary", Dr. Williard found time to do much literary work. The following is a list of his publications: "Commentary of Dr. Zacharias Ursinus on the Heidelberg Catechism", translated from Latin into English (published in 1851); Co-Editor and Compiler of the "Western Liturgy of the Reformed Church" (published in 1871); "History of Heidelberg College" (published in 1879); "A Treasury of Family Reading" (published in 1883); "Life, Work and Character of Henry Leonard" (published in 1890); "Comparative Study of the Dominant Religions of the World" (published in 1893). Dr. Williard considered this last book from his pen the best and most important of his literary works. In 1896 he published in the Messenger an "Autobiography", from which most of the material for this sketch has been taken. He contributed many articles to the church papers and magazines.

References: Messenger; September 20, 1900

September 27, 1900

Seminary Register

Obituary Record, E. & M. College

Reformed Church Almanac, 1901

Dr. Williard's "Autobiography"

History of Maryland Classis

REV. H. RUSTERHOLZ

H. Rusterholz was a native of Switzerland, coming to America in 1871. We do not know the date or the place of his birth or anything concerning his early life, except that he studied for some time at Basle. Upon his arrival in this country he entered the Mission House Seminary, from which he was graduated in 1872.

Mr. Rusterholz entered the ministry of the Reformed Church in 1872, serving many Charges in the West for a period of twenty-eight years from the time of his ordination until his death. The following is a list of his pastoral relationships, but it is not possible to fix even an approximate date in each: Manitowoc, Wisc. (1872 - 1874); Piqua, Ohio (November, 1874 - November, 1875); Bluffton, Ohio (Beginning November, 1875); New Bavaria, Ohio; Aurora, Ind.; Elmore, Wisc.; Monticello, Wisc. (Beginning March, 1891); Elk Rapids, Mich. He died at Elk Rapids, August 18, 1900.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1902

REV. LEWIS B. CLAYTON

L. B. Clayton was born near Fairfield, Ohio, July 9, 1830. He was confirmed a member of the Reformed Church, August 14, 1855.

It seems that the idea of entering the ministry came to him late in life. As a young man and in middle age he worked at his trade - that of a carpenter. The circumstances of his preparation for the ministry were probably similar to those of a number of men who became ministers in middle age during the early part of the nineteenth century in the West. He was a pious layman, active in the affairs of the congregation of which he was a member, a member of the Consistory, probably Superintendent of the Sunday

School; and above all, a man of superior intelligence, but possessing limited formal education; and then seeing the great need of ministers and feeling that the Church needed his services as a preacher of the Gospel, finally decided to acquire what knowledge of theology he could and from whatever source he could find available.

Accordingly, he placed himself as a student under the care of Rev. Jesse Steiner, and then having spent several years as a diligent student, presented himself to Miami Classis for examination. He was accepted, licensed and ordained by that Classis in May, 1883. From that date he served as a minister in the Reformed Church in the following pastorates: Fairview, New Pittsburgh, Union Charge (1888) and Bunker Hill, all in Indiana. He died at Boundary, Ind., September 10, 1904.

On May 12, 1861, Mr. Clayton was married to Miss Christiana Troxell, who survived him.

Reference: Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1902

REV. JARED FRITZINGER

Jared Fritzinger was the grandson of Ernest Fritzinger who came from Switzerland in 1780. He settled in Lehigh County and taught in parochial schools during his whole lifetime. He was also an organist and served churches in Lehigh and Berks Counties, where in some of the churches which were more advanced, organs as aids to worship were found. Ernest Fritzinger died in 1827.

Jared's parents were Matthew (who died in 1833) and Elizabeth (Ross) Fritzinger. Jared was born in Lehigh County, June 29, 1822. He was baptized on August 18, 1822, and confirmed in 1837 by Rev. John Helffrich.

After the death of his father he went to live on a farm in his uncle's family until his marriage and removal to Allentown in 1842. It is not known at what trade he labored in early manhood; however, he was a zealous member of Zion Reformed Church in Allentown, interested and busy in the promotion of the well-being of that congregation. Probably influenced and encouraged by the pastor, Rev. J. S. Dubbs, of whom Mr. Fritzinger was a great favorite, he felt called to the ministry. At any rate, about 1846, he decided definitely upon his future career and placed himself under the care of Rev. J. S. Dubbs and Rev. Christian Kessler as a student for the ministry. After five years of study he was licensed in 1851 by East Pennsylvania Classis.

His first pastoral field was in the Liberty Charge in Tioga County, Pa., residing at Williamsport, Pa. During his service of four years in this Charge (1851 - 1855), he preached frequently also at Williamsport.

From 1855 until 1871 he was pastor of the Mahanoy Charge in Northumberland County. He resigned this Charge on account of his health and resided in Ashland, Pa., for one year without a Charge. In 1872 he became pastor of the Moore Township Charge in Northampton County, where he remained for three years.

In 1875 he moved to Allentown to aid in the organization of Salem congregation in that city, serving, with two other ministers, as supply to the newly-organized congregation. In 1876 he organized the Christ congregation in Allentown, serving as its first pastor until October, 1880. Again he was compelled to give up the active ministry for reasons of health, and seems to have resided in Allentown for five years without a Charge.

In 1885 he organized St. Mark's congregation at Aineyville, near Allentown, and served as its first pastor for ten years (until

March 3, 1895). This congregation is now St. Mark's Church, Allentown, served at present by Rev. C. D. Kressley. Therefore, three prosperous churches in Allentown had their beginning as the result of faithful pastoral efforts on the part of Mr. Fritzinger. In 1895 he became disabled and was practically an invalid until the end of his life.

He died at Allentown, after a long illness, on September 25, 1900, at the age of seventy-eight. Funeral services on September 29 at his late home were in charge of Revs. T. J. Hacker and W. F. More. Further services in Zion Church, Allentown, were in charge of the pastor, Rev. T. J. Hacker, who preached a German sermon. Rev. S. G. Wagner followed with a sermon in English. Twelve ministers were present, of whom six served as pall-bearers. He was buried in the Union Cemetery, Allentown.

On May 15, 1842 (at the age of nineteen) Mr. Fritzinger was married to Miss Margaret Habenbuch of Allentown, who died March 25, 1890. Three children survived him.

References: Messenger; October 4, 1900

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1902

REV. GERNY WEBER

Gerny Weber was the son of Joseph and Rebecca (Hackman) Weber and was born at Rebersburg, Center County, Pa., September 14, 1868. His mother died before he was two years old. He attended the public school and then, on the advice of his pastor, Rev. John Dotterer, decided to enter the ministry. While preparing for college he taught school at Rebersburg for one year.

In 1888 he entered Franklin and Marshall College, graduating in 1892. In the fall of that year he entered the Theological Seminary

at Lancaster, from which institution he was graduated in 1895. He was licensed by West Susquehanna Classis in May, 1895, and on June 27 of that year he was ordained by Zion's Classis and installed as the first pastor of the newly-constituted Glen Rock, Pa., Charge, consisting of three congregations, Trinity at Glen Rock, St. Peter's, and Fissel's. During his first year as pastor, Trinity congregation erected a new church building.

Having been commissioned pastor of the Faith Mission at Salisbury, N. C., he resigned the Glen Rock Charge on September 15, 1899, and then entered upon his work in the Southland, a pastorate that was to end in less than a year.

In July, 1900, he became ill of typhoid fever. He apparently recovered, although his convalescence was rather prolonged. Then on the morning of November 19, 1900, he was stricken with heart failure, causing his death in the evening of the same day.

His remains were brought to Glen Rock where funeral services were held in Trinity Church on November 22, in charge of Rev. I. S. Leiby, who also preached the sermon. Addresses were delivered by Revs. H. J. Hillegas and W. D. Happel. Rev. J. M. Runkle assisted in the Services. He was buried at Glen Rock. Six ministerial brethren served as pall-bearers.

On February 15, 1900, Mr. Weber was married to Miss Jennie Harpel Moessinger of Glen Rock, who survived him.

References: Messenger; November 29, 1900

December 20, 1900

Seminary Register

Obituary Record, F. & M. College

Almanac of the Reformed Church, 1902

LIC. CHARLES OGLE KNEPPER

Charles O. Knepper was one of three brothers to enter the ministry of the Reformed Church; Charles O., Benjamin, and Henry. Charles O. was born at Somerset, Pa., on October 20, 1836. He was graduated from Jefferson College at Cannonsburg, Pa., in 1862. He then prepared for the ministry at the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, graduating in 1864 and was licensed by Synod in the same year. It is not believed that he was ever ordained or served a pastoral Charge. From 1864 until 1873 he was a teacher at Ogle Station, Ill., at Waterloo, Iowa, and at Henry Marshall, Ill. From 1873 until 1892 he was a professor at Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio.

Then in 1892 he went to the Far West and was Editor of the "Morning Press" at Santa Barbara, California, from 1892 until 1896. In 1893 he was dismissed to the Presbyterian Church. From 1896 until his death, he was a teacher in the Idaho State Normal School and published of the "Inland Journal" at Lewiston, Idaho. His death occurred at Lewiston in February, 1899.

Reference: Seminary Register.