

**PRESBYTERIANISM. ITS RELATION TO THE
NEGRO. ILLUSTRATED BY THE BEREAN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA,
WITH SKETCH OF THE CHURCH AND
AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649744466

Presbyterianism. Its Relation to the Negro. Illustrated by the Berean Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, with Sketch of the Church and Autobiography of the Author by Matthew Anderson & Francis J. Grimke & John B. Reeve

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

MATTHEW ANDERSON & FRANCIS J. GRIMKE & JOHN B. REEVE

**PRESBYTERIANISM. ITS RELATION TO THE
NEGRO. ILLUSTRATED BY THE BEREAN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA,
WITH SKETCH OF THE CHURCH AND
AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR**



THE MERIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

PRESBYTERIANISM.

ITS RELATION TO THE NEGRO.

ILLUSTRATED BY

The Berean Presbyterian Church,

PHILADELPHIA,

WITH SKETCH OF THE CHURCH AND AUTO
BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR

BY

MATTHEW ANDERSON, A. M.,

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE, AND THE
AMERICAN NEGRO ACADEMY FOR THE PROMOTION OF LETTERS,
ART, LITERATURE AND SCIENCE.

WITH INTRODUCTIONS

BY

FRANCIS J. GRIMKE, D. D.,

PASTOR OF THE FIFTEENTH STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

AND

JOHN B. REEVE, D. D.,

PASTOR OF THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LOMBARD
STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, PA. :

JOHN MCGILL WHITE & CO.,

1328 CHESTNUT STREET.

... DEDICATION ...

TO MY FRIEND

JOHN MCGILL,

WHO FOSTERED AND SUSTAINED THE
BEKEAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOR
OVER FOURTEEN YEARS, AND TO THE
FRIENDS OF THE COLORED PEOPLE
GENERALLY, IS THIS BOOK MOST
GRATEFULLY AND AFFECTIONATELY
DEDICATED BY

THE AUTHOR.

Philadelphia, July, 1897.

572

2201142

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

I have known the pastor of the Berean Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Matthew Anderson, for a number of years. We were in the Theological Seminary at Princeton together, since which time our friendship has deepened with increasing years. From the inception of his work in Philadelphia I have watched his career with the deepest interest. Too much cannot be said in praise of his self-sacrificing and indefatigable efforts in pushing forward the work to which, in the providence of God, he was called shortly after the completion of his Seminary course. What he has accomplished has simply been marvellous. No one knows but those who have been most intimately associated with him, what this work has cost him in care and toil. By day and by night, for years, he went up and down the city of Philadelphia in search of means to help to pay for the beautiful building in which the congregation now worships. Often, I know, he must have been discouraged, often depressed and cast down, but his faith was in God, and so he kept on in the full assurance that success would ultimately crown his efforts. And success has crowned his efforts. The beautiful structure on South College avenue will ever remain a monument to his faith, and zeal, and earnestness, and a witness to the generosity of the many noble friends who came to his assistance, and who cheered him on by their gifts and kind words. When the last dollar was paid on the building, I remember how I was thrilled by the joyful announcement which came to me, from him, and how my heart rejoiced with him in the glorious consummation.

I said then, well done, and I say now, a hundred times over, "Well done."

FRANCIS J. GRIMKE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 10, 1897.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Having had the privilege of hearing read from manuscript what the Rev. Matthew Anderson, pastor of the Berean Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pa., has written concerning that "work of faith," and having had full knowledge of it, from its inception as a Mission Sunday School, until now, I take great pleasure in commending this sketch of local church history to all who are interested in the advancement of our Redeemer's Kingdom. It witnesses nobly to the possibilities which lie before Presbyterianism among the so called "peculiar people."

Had the Reverend Gloucesters, father and son, founders of Presbyterian Churches in this city left similar sketches of their noble work, such records would now be invaluable.

J. B. REEVE,

For more than thirty years Pastor of Central
Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pa.

January, 1897.

PREFACE.

The motives which led to the writing of these pages were not to write a book, but simply a report of the Berean Presbyterian Church for the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and to give a short historical sketch of the enterprise from its inception, together with an Autobiography of the writer for the benefit of the members and friends of the church.

It was thought that as there had never been given to the Presbytery a comprehensive report of the church, that such a report should be given now, especially since the debt on the church proper had been cancelled, together with one-half of the debt on the parsonage, and since the whole property, church and parsonage, has been turned over to the Trustees. It was thought also, that inasmuch as the writer has been most intimately connected with the work, almost from the very inception of the mission, that no one was as well acquainted with its history, development and prospect as he, and hence no one was as well prepared to write its history, therefore that he should write a brief sketch of the church while the facts, purposes, and plans, are all fresh in his mind for the benefit of the congregation and the friends generally of the enterprise.

It was while writing the report for the Presbytery and the historical sketch of the church that the thought was suggested of showing the relation of Presbyterianism to the Negro, using the Berean Church as an illustration. Hence the title, "Presbyterianism in its relation to *The Negro*."

We have always thought, and we believe rightly, that the Presbyterian Church has an important mission

to perform among the colored people of the United States. The doctrines held by the church are the best calculated to correct the peculiar faults of the Negro, his legacy from slavery, and thus give him that independence and decision of character necessary to enable him to act nobly and well his part as a man and a citizen of our great republic. Presbyterian Churches and schools should therefore be established not only in the South but in the North as well, which will require in the main the same methods and means to establish and carry them on, as has been employed in the Berean Church. Hence if there is anything in the history of the Berean Church, which will inspire faith and energy among those who are laboring to establish Presbyterianism among the colored people, as well as to induce those who are able to give of their means towards such work, we will be satisfied, feeling that we have not labored in vain.

MATTHEW ANDERSON.

PHILADELPHIA, July, 1897.