

**CHURCHES OF ROCHESTER:  
ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF  
ROCHESTER, N. Y. : NARRATIVE OF THE  
RISE AND PRESENT CONDITION OF  
EACH RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION**

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Churches of Rochester: ecclesiastical history of Rochester, N.Y.: narrative of the rise and present condition of each religious organization by F. De W. Ward

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**F. DE W. WARD**

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## PREFACE.

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For the reason that religion is the most important of all subjects, the ecclesiastical history of any community surpasses every other feature in value and true interest.

Rochester fitly attracts much attention by the rapidity of its growth — there being not a house in 1810 where the population now numbers 70,000 ; by its eminent position in regard to several articles of production, manufacture and commerce ; but especially by the high character it early secured, and has ever retained, for morality and religion. The founders of this “city of the wild” brought with them the Bible, and at once commenced those Sabbath and sanctuary services (preaching, prayer and sacraments) which had been their usage at their former homes. Atheism, Infidelity, with fatal religious heresies, have ever found this a most unwelcome and unfruitful soil. It has been the oft repeated expression that a religious history of Rochester be written to the glory of our common christianity, and as a grateful tribute to those who, under God, made the place what it is.

The writer of the following work little anticipated the time and labor that would be required in its prep-

aration. Whatever success has attended the endeavor to save from oblivion important annals, and whatever interest the reader may find in perusing these pages, are largely due to the gentlemen who have rendered cheerful and abundant assistance. But for such aid the narratives had been meagre, incorrect and unsatisfactory, whereas there are now, it is believed, but few mistakes, and the omissions comparatively unimportant. The author presents his sincere thanks to present and former citizens — clerical and lay — for their many letters containing facts which find a place in these chapters. In the index, credit is given to contributors — the biographical sketches being almost entirely by the author. The three daily papers having obligingly published a notice many months ago of such a work in preparation, if any church is omitted, the fault rests with those who did not furnish information. The greatest difficulty has been in the spelling of proper names, especially those of foreign residents. Much assistance has been derived from C. C. Drew's admirable Directory for 1871, a copy of which was loaned by a friendly hand.

The last chapter contains facts and reminiscences interesting to many persons and worthy of historical preservation.

The printer, Mr. James W. Clement, of Genesée, and the publisher, have done their best to render the volume attractive and acceptable to the reader.

Were the writer to make a formal dedication of his work, it would be to the **MEMORY OF THE FOUNDERS OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IN THE VILLAGE AND CITY OF ROCHESTER.**

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## Explanations, Errata, and Additions,

*Which Readers are requested to notice as they peruse the Volume.*

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It was originally intended to embody in this work biographical sketches of pioneer citizens who have taken an active and prominent part in organizing and establishing the various churches. Limited room and difficulty of selection have rendered unadvisable this interesting feature. Such narratives would form in themselves a valuable and welcome volume. The 1,500 different persons herein named include most of the early christian comers.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.—In addition to the statements on page 180, the following, furnished by Louis Chapin, Esq., are of great historic value: "In 1870 Rochester had 50 Protestant Sunday schools, 1,353 teachers, 12,410 scholars, with an average attendance of 8,674. During that year, 429 persons connected with these Sunday schools, united with the various churches on profession of their faith."

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN.—Add to "Summary," the names of *Elders* R. M. Dalzel, E. W. Armstrong, M.D., and John W. Adama. Also, Dr. Penney not Penny, Glasgow not Glascow, font not fount.

THIRD PRESBYTERIAN.—Died, in Rochester, Sept. 10, 1871, Rev. A. G. Hall, D.D., the pastor for thirty-one years of the Third Presbyterian church.

"Servant of Christ—well done—  
Rest from thy loved employ."

SAINT PETER'S, PRESBYTERIAN.—A chime of nine bells placed in the tower in 1860, were melted in the fire of 1868, but replaced by a chime of twelve bells upon rebuilding the structure. Page 59, fourth line from top, for Rev. Dr. Hall read Rev. W. H. Green, D.D., of Princeton, N. J. Page 61, third line from bottom, for Chicago read Bridgeport, Conn.

viii EXPLANATIONS, ERRATA, AND ADDITIONS.

**SAINTE LUKE'S, EPISCOPAL.**—Page 83, eighteenth line from top, for "early decree," read "academic degree." *Wardens in succession*—Nathaniel Rochester, 1817-19; Samuel I. Andrews, '17-20; Geo. G. Sill, '20; William Atkinson, '20-22; J. Mastick, '22-6; W. Pitkin, '27-66; S. O. Smith, '28-33; V. Matthews, '34-46; N. T. Rochester, '47-58, and '66-68; W. Brewster, 1859, and G. H. Perkins from 1869. *Vestrymen* have been from almost all the leading members. *Clerks of Vestry*—R. Babbitt, 1817-21; N. T. Rochester, '21-33, and '35-43; H. E. Rochester, '32-33 and '44; E. D. Smith, '34; T. C. Montgomery, '45-54; F. A. Whittlesey, '55-56 and '62; J. A. Eastman, '57-61; P. W. Garfield, '63-64; E. A. Frost, '65; R. H. Rochester, '65-66; J. P. Humphrey, '66; Allen Ayrault, H. L. Churchill, '67-69; W. Eastwood, '70; T. Raines, '71. *Treasurers*—R. Babbitt, '17-21; N. T. Rochester, '22-32; W. Pitkin, '32-36; F. Whittlesey, '36-39; C. Morse, '39-44; I. M. Fish, '44; H. Scranton, '45-48; A. J. Brackett, '49-54; E. Whalen, '55-62; A. Karnes, '62-65; E. R. Hammett, '65 (These were reluctantly left out in the following narrative for want of space in that position).

**FIRST BAPTIST.**—Page 135, for Geo. Davison read Geo. Dawson, and for Richard M. Scott read Richard M. Nott. Page 138, for Ezra Owen read Ezra Zeburn. *Treasurer*, E. T. Outley. This church has a flourishing out-station entitled The Rapids Mission chapel, which promises an useful future to the southern part of the city.

**SECOND BAPTIST.**—In 1879 this church established a mission and built a handsome and commodious chapel on the corner of East avenue and Anson Park, at a cost of \$18,000; the lot cost \$5,000. It is named Bethlehem Mission. A Sabbath school of 250 scholars, under the superintendence of Mr. J. S. Phillips, meet in the chapel on the Sabbath, and a meeting for worship is held on Tuesday evening.

Aristarchus Champion, Esq., whose name often appears in the following pages, died in Rochester on the 28th of September, 1871, at the advanced age of ninety years. A native of Connecticut, he had made his home in this place since 1826. He possessed abundant wealth, which he devoted largely to the cause of morality and religion.