

**WHAT CALVINISM
HAS DONE
FOR AMERICA**

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What Calvinism has done for America by John Clover Monsma

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TO MY WIFE

*Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of Liberty,
To Thee we sing!
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light!
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King!*

PREFACE

IN the following pages the author has tried to give a brief account of what he believes to be the origin of American fundamentals. In doing so he was fully conscious of the fact, that he was rowing against the current, that the majority of writers on this subject present an altogether different view,—a view to which the American public has become so accustomed, that any attempts to create a diverse opinion might easily be looked upon as foredoomed to failure.

And yet—the author is a sworn believer in the invincibility of Truth. “Truth, crushed to earth, shall rise again; The unending years of God are hers!” It was his love of what he regarded as the truth which made the author write the following pages.

At the same time, this book is meant to answer in some slight measure the clarion call that was issued twenty years ago by Holland's grand old man, Dr. Abraham Kuyper, when he lectured for a Princeton, N. J., audience. Said the Dutch statesman, “. . . I contend for an historical study of the principles of Calvinism. No love without knowledge; and Calvinism has lost its place in the hearts of the people. It is being advocated only from a theological point of view, and even then very one-sidedly, and merely as a side-issue. . . Since Calvinism arose, not from an abstract system, but from life itself, it never was in the century of its prime presented as a systematic whole. The tree blossomed and yielded its fruit, but without anyone having made a botanic study of its nature and growth. Calvinism, in its rise, rather acted than argued. But now this study may no longer be delayed. Both the biography and biology of Calvinism must now be thoroughly investigated and