

**THE PASTOR AND THE CHURCH,
OR, REV. JOHN H. DURYEA, D.D.,
AND THE SECOND REFORMED
CHURCH AT PATERSON, N. J.**

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The pastor and the church, or, Rev. John H. Duryea, D.D., and the Second Reformed Church at Paterson, N. J. by Theo. W. Welles

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THEO. W. WELLES

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— OR —

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SECOND REFORMED CHURCH AT
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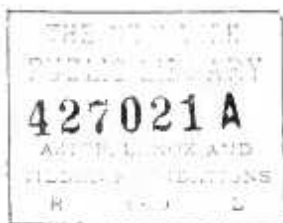
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PASTOR OF THE CHURCH.

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P R E F A C E .

THESE annals of the past are the result of labors prosecuted amid the duties, cares and responsibilities of an active ministry. For their preparation, information has been sought from every source accessible to the author, through church records, official documents and the written or verbal testimony of the living. A constant reference to the sources of his information has not been thought necessary, but the author wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to the Hon. William Nelson, of Paterson, N. J., who very kindly granted him permission to make use, as occasion might require, of his "History of the Old Dutch Church at Totowa," his "History of Bergen and Passaic Counties," and a small work entitled "The Van Houten Manuscripts."

The monographs concerning the characteristics and polity of the Reformed Church, have been prepared for the information of "the stranger within our gates" and the host who think the Reformed Church and the Presbyterian Church differ only in name.

In giving the history of the controversy occasioned by the burning of the old Totowa church, the author, for various reasons, has simply transcribed official documents, without an expression of opinion or a comment, that the judgment of future generations might be determined in accordance with the just and lenient principle enunciated by the Savior in one of his parables, "Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee."

No portion of the work has required greater labor than the roll of communicants, which contains, in a concise form, some information of every one who has been or is in the communion of the church. Extended notes are given in reference to the Christian character of a few of those who have departed this life, not because they have been thought more worthy of special mention than others, but because in searching the records of the past, the testimony here given was found. The author would have gladly increased the number of such notes, and have given some sketch of the character of all who "through faith and patience have inherited the promises," but every man's ignorance exceeds his

knowledge, and the author could tell only what by research he had learned.

Having faithfully endeavored to ascertain the truth, record is made only of what is believed to be the truth, but as the purest purpose however assiduously pursued and the utmost caution however constantly maintained, do not insure infallibility, it would be passing strange, if in copying dates and names well nigh innumerable, there was never a slip of the pen, and equally strange if in arranging facts collated from many sources, there was never an error of judgment. The reader should therefore remember that the writer was not Divinely inspired, and if errors are discovered in the work he has wrought, should regard them as the result of the imperfection that invariably characterizes the labors of mankind.

“ Don't look for the flaws as you go through life :
And even when you find them,
It is wise and kind to be somewhat blind
And look for the virtue behind them.
For the cloudiest night has a tint of light
Somewhere in the shadows hiding :
It is better by far to look for a star,
Than the spots on the sun abiding.”

THEO. W. WELLES.

PATERSON, N. J., 1896.



THE PASTOR AND THE CHURCH.

THE PASTOR:

REV JOHN HUDSON DURYEA, D. D.

INTRODUCTORY.

The Rev. John Hudson Duryea, D. D., was born at Wallkill, Orange County, New York, Thursday, November the twenty-eighth, 1810. He commenced his labors as pastor of the Second Reformed Church of Totowa, at Paterson, New Jersey, Sunday, February the seventeenth, 1839, and continued in the pastorate of the Church until his death.

He died at his residence, No. 79 Hamilton avenue, Paterson, New Jersey, after a lingering and painful illness, Wednesday morning, August the seventh, 1895.

Funeral services were held in the church in which for so long a time he officiated, on Friday afternoon, at half-past two o'clock, August the ninth.

The church, heavily but appropriately draped, was filled by a congregation of sincere mourners, well nigh to its utmost capacity, while many floral tributes of respect to the departed pastor, relieving the dark insignia of mourning about the pulpit, gave intimation that the bereaved congregation sorrowed, not without hope of an eternal reunion.

The services were conducted by the pastor of the Church, the Rev. Theodore W. Welles, D. D., assisted by a number of clergymen of the Reformed and other Churches, many of

whom followed the remains of their esteemed brother to their final rest in Cedar Lawn Cemetery.

Sabbath morning, October 6th, 1895, memorial services were held in the church at half-past ten o'clock, when a memorial discourse was delivered by the pastor.

As this discourse contains an outline of the life and character of Dr. Duryea, without some knowledge of which those who were not acquainted with his daily walk and conversation cannot rightly appreciate the addresses delivered in connection with his funeral obsequies, the Memorial Discourse is presented first, and is published, not as it was delivered, but as it was originally written with many details of incident and scene which the time allotted for a pulpit discourse rendered it absolutely necessary to omit, but which it is believed will be of interest not only to the many who revere the memory of Dr. Duryea, but to all who are sufficiently interested in the Church to which he ministered, to peruse these pages.

