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HISTORY

2498 ✓
4485

OF

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA.

FROM A PERIOD PRECEDING ITS SETTLEMENT TO RECENT TIMES,

INCLUDING

THE ANNALS AND GEOGRAPHY OF EACH TOWNSHIP.

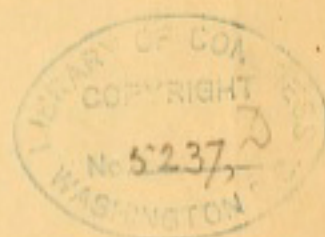
WITH MAPS AND NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS.

ALSO,

A SKETCH OF WOMAN'S WORK IN THE COUNTY FOR THE UNITED
STATES SANITARY COMMISSION, AND A LIST OF THE
SOLDIERS OF THE NATIONAL ARMY FURNISHED
BY MANY OF THE TOWNSHIPS.

BY

EMILY C. BLACKMAN.



PHILADELPHIA: ✓
CLAXTON, REMSEN & HAFFELFINGER,
624, 626, AND 628 MARKET STREET.
1873.

York and Philadelphia, and in each case made it an object to cancel the debt on the building at or prior to its dedication.

In the autumn of 1856 the Southern Aid Society invited him to go to Texas to inquire into the condition of the several evangelical denominations; he accepted and was absent eight months, encountering many physical difficulties and dangers; and returned to renew his labors in the Montrose Presbytery.

In 1859 his labors were transferred to the Genesee Presbytery, where he remained short of two years, when operations were suspended in consequence of the war.

In July, 1862, he was appointed post chaplain at Beverly, Western Va., in the hospital, until it was closed, in 1863.

His last engagement was with the Delaware Presbytery, until April, 1866, when, at the age of seventy-seven years and three months, he laid off the harness; since which time he has been quietly domiciled among us with his family.

REV. HENRY A. RILEY.

Henry Augustus Riley was born in the city of New York, November 21, 1801. At the age of fourteen he was placed at the Roman Catholic College, at Georgetown, D. C., where he remained two years, and where he was led to renounce the Protestant faith of his parents, and to purpose a preparation for the priesthood in that institution—a renunciation and a purpose, however, which were recalled when he was freed from the influences to which he had been subjected.

He graduated in 1820 at the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), in the collegiate department; and entered as student of law, in the office of Horace Binney, of that city. Remaining here a few months he was induced, after a very dangerous illness, to commence the study of medicine; and graduated in the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1825.

He commenced the practice of medicine in New York, and continued it until the beginning of 1829, when, from a change in his religious views and feelings, he entered the Theological Seminary, at Princeton, to prepare for the ministry.

He graduated in 1832, and in 1835 was ordained and installed pastor over what was then the Eighth Avenue Presbyterian church, now that of West Twenty-third Street, New York.

In January, 1839, he commenced his ministry at Montrose, Pa., and after a pastorate of just twenty-five years he resigned the position, but has continued to reside in the parish. [See Authors.]

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

October 5, 1829, Bishop Onderdonk confirmed J. W. Raynsford, wife, and eldest daughter; also John Street and wife, as constituent members of St. Paul's church. The ceremony took place in the Presbyterian meeting-house, of which church three of the party were former members. For many years St. Paul's had but two male members.

Not far from this time Rev. Samuel Marks was a resident Episcopalian missionary in the county, officiating in Springville and New Milford; and, in the spring of 1831, in Montrose, at the court-house.

June 2, 1832, the corner-stone of St. Paul's church was laid. Among its contents was the following record:—

"Rector, Rev. S. Marks; Wardens, J. W. Raynsford and J. C. Biddle; Vestry, Benjamin Lathrop, John Melhuish, S. F. Keeler, Henry Drinker, C. L. Ward, and Admiral Rupley; Contractors, Jesse Scott, Enos P. Root—contract, \$1200. Donor of the ground, Reuben B. Locke. Date of charter, December 20, 1830. 'Our banner is Evangelical Truth and Apostolic Order.'"

This building was 30x43 feet. Service was held Christmas Eve, 1832, when the rector gave reasons for decorating the house with evergreens. It was consecrated by Bishop Onderdonk, October 27, 1833. An organ was purchased in December for \$95.

In December, 1849, land for a parsonage was donated by J. W. Raynsford.

Purchase of land for a new church, September, 1855. Laying of the corner-stone, June 1856; consecrated by Bishop Potter, July 17, 1857. At this time the first rector of the church preached the sermon. The cost of the church was \$7500, and through the liberality of Henry Drinker, Esq., the debt was cancelled so as to allow of its consecration. A new organ was procured, late in 1866, for \$1000. A lot for the erection of a Sabbath-school chapel has been purchased.

The rectors of St. Paul's have been: Revs. S. Marks, W. Peck, Charles E. Pleasants—each at \$150, for half the time, per year—George P. Hopkins, John Long, D. C. Byllesby, Robert B. Peet, Wm. F. Halsey, and E. A. Warriner—the last-named on a salary of \$1000, with parsonage.

The old church edifice was sold to the Roman Catholics, who celebrate Mass here once every three weeks. Their first services in Montrose were held at the house of Peter Byrne, about thirty years ago.

A Universalist society was organized here late in 1831. The church was built in 1843, and dedicated July 11, 1844. The preachers of this denomination which are mentioned in the annals of Brooklyn have officiated here, unless the last one is an exception.

The Methodist Episcopal church was built in 1845, on land donated by Hon. William Jessup. It was for a long time weak in numbers and in means; but within the last few years, through a series of revivals unprecedented in this church, its weakness has become strength, both in numbers and influence.

Two African Methodist churches in the borough, and a Union church in South Bridgewater, have been erected within the last twenty-five years.