BOOK REVIEWS


Stanton Belfour’s Centennial History of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church is a most comprehensive and interesting description of the inception, growth, and life of the Church, written in a personal and charming style. He has brought life to the history of the Church by comprehensive delineation of its activities, further embellished by a great number of interesting photographs of former officers and members, embodying a record of their activities. The characters described from the inception of the Church really constitute a Who’s Who of Pittsburgh and embrace many members from the earliest settlers in the community to the present day.

Dr. Belfour’s wonderful description of the tenure of service of the beloved Dr. Hugh Thomson Kerr will be appreciated by the countless thousands who came under his influence, both personally and over the airwaves.

The tribute paid to Dr. Scharfe, the present minister, is well deserved, showing him to be not only an outstanding preacher but one who is broad-minded, tolerant of the beliefs of other denominations, and beloved by his congregation — truly a worthy successor to Dr. Kerr.

As the Church has grown in size, wealth, and influence, the ramifications of its activities are described in detail. Of particular interest is the chapter entitled “Fishermen,” in which a thumbnail sketch is given of many individuals past and present who have been bulwarks in the building and conduct of the affairs of the Church.

It is really a heartwarming story embodying, as it does, a record for posterity and a glowing tribute to those Scotch-Presbyterian residents who founded a Church which has become a tremendous influence for good in the entire community which it serves.

Pittsburgh

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