

MR. WOODSIDE'S DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AS  
SET FORTH IN HIS PREFACE TO THE VOLUME  
ENTITLED: "THE YEARS OF THE  
LORD'S RIGHT HAND."

THE chief aim of this volume is, not merely to commemorate thirty years of labor in the work of the ministry, but to give to the world a succinct statement of the principles of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and transmit to the generations yet unborn an accurate account of our Scriptural worship as strictly observed in America, Canada and the British Isles, in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Like Paul, we can say, we are "set for the defence of the gospel." There is much to be done before the mission of the Reformed Presbyterian Church will be complete. She is a public witness for the rights of the Lord Jesus Christ as Governor among the nations, and as the Prince of the Kings of the earth. Her distinctive principles have been published to the world again and again by faithful ancestors, but the world at large is slow to embrace the truth, and hence the necessity of renewing our testimony, and publishing our principles afresh. Each generation of the human family grows up with natural antipathy to Christ and His truth, so there is increasing demand for the faithful teaching of the doctrine of total depravity, and the necessity for regeneration by the Holy Ghost.

As a body of Christ's followers we believe in the plenary inspiration of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and that they are the only infallible rule of faith and practice. The bible is the heaven-appointed guide, not only for the individual soul, but for the family, the church and the nation. Rulers are as much under obligation to frame and administer state, municipal, national, and international law, according to it, as the individual soul is to be "holy in all manner of conversation." All christian denominations do not give this place to the bible. But we teach that the word of God is the ultimate standard of appeal in all matters civil as well as ecclesiastical. There cannot be national peace, prosperity and perpetuity without national conformity to the revealed will of God.

The doctrine of Christ's universal headship over all things, to