προπορείω "to go forward," thus corresponding to the Babylonian eteku which Kugler renders by "fortrücken' (S & S, 22). This eteku occurs a number of times in Thompson's Reports. Thus 187. Obv. I. (Ana mul) SAG-MI-GAR a-na crib Samši i-ti-ik, when Jupiter passes on at sunset. 194, Obv. 1-2, Ana mul S.4G-MI-G.AR a-na imitti mul Dil-bat i-ti-ik, when Jupiter goes to the right of Venus. 244A, Rev. 1, 2, (šarru) lu la-ti-ik a-di uş-şu-u, the king shall not hasten to go out. 245, Rev. 3-6, šarru a-na šu-uku la us-sa-a a-di a-dan-šu ša it-ti it-ti-ķu it-ti ša a-di arah ume-mes, let not the king go out into the street, until the time set by the omen be passed, i.e., the omen of the star for a month of days. 272, Rev. 4, 5, Ana mul SAG-MI-GAR ik-šad-am-ma mul šarru etik(ik)-ma ib-ni-šu arka-nu mul šarru ša mul SAG-MI-GAR etik-šu-ma ib-nu-šu ikaššada-ma mul SAG-MI-GAR ctik, when Jupiter has culminated and has passed and illuminated Regulus, then Regulus, whom Jupiter had passed and illuminated, culminates. ROBERT DICK WILSON.

## THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH\*

The Presbyterian Church in America is a growth whose germs, as a rule, were particular churches composed of immigrants from Europe. Some of these churches located in several colonies were organized into a Presbytery at Philadelphia, Pa., in March 1706. The denomination grew so rapidly that in 1716 the Presbytery constituted itself into a Synod.

This Synod met first at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in September, 1717, and was, in a positive sense, the Synod of the American Presbyterian Church, for no other distinctively Presbyterian Church then existed in the territory now included within the United States of America. All other Churches of the Presbyterian faith and order in America are later developments.

The Synod was known at first simply as a "Synod." In 1745 the division in the Church brought about the use of geographical names for each of the two synodical bodies which came into being, and when, in 1758, the Church was reunited, the governing body was known during its entire existence, as the Synod of New York and Philadelphia. For purposes of convenience it is called by the writer the General Synod.

As the governing body of the Church, the General Synod was, in many particulars, unique, and it is upon these special features that emphasis will be laid in this article. The principal facts of the history are discussed in quite a number of volumes, have been dealt with recently in various publications, both in newspaper and book form, and familiarity with them on the part of readers is taken for granted.

<sup>\*</sup>This paper is substantially the address delivered by the writer at the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., Dallas, Texas, May 1917, on the occasion of the celebration of the Two-hundredth Anniversary of the General Synod.