

MINUTES
DELAWARE
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
1879

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Announcements were made, the Doxology was sung, and the Benediction pronounced by Geo. H. Waters.

EVENING SESSION.

The Conference met pursuant to adjournment at 7.30 p. m., Bishop Scott in the chair.

The devotional services were conducted by Geo. H. Waters.

Bishop Scott presented a letter from the "Women's Christian Temperance Union" of Ravenna, Ohio. The Conference adopted the letter, striking out so much as referred to the matter of voting.

The Statistical Secretary reported. (See Statistics).

The fifteenth question was taken up—"Have any died this year?"

J. D. Elbert announced the hymn "How blest the righteous when he dies," a large congregation joined in singing the first three verses, and John Q. Dennis led in a fervent, feeling prayer, after which W. C. Dickerson read memoirs of the following persons, who had deceased since the last Conference: Bishop E. R. Ames, D. D. Remarks were made by Bishop Scott and H. Jolly; also of Rev. S. Cooper, who died last year. Remarks were made by Rev. P. Burrows. "There we shall see his face" was sung, and the memoir of Rev. J. S. Manluff was read. "Shall we meet beyond the river?" was sung, and remarks were made by Rev. Father Hinson.

The memoir of Rev. P. W. Pipes was next read. "My latest sun is sinking fast" was sung, after which remarks were made by W. J. Parker.

Memoirs were then read of the following persons: Lydia Elsey, widow of Rev. W. S. Elsey; Patience, mother of Rev. N. Morris; Adeline Pearce, late wife of Rev. J. H. Pearce, also Albert J. Pearce, son of the same brother; Sarah A. T. Parker; Melicent Cooper, late widow of Rev. Solomon Cooper, and Sarah J. Coleman, late wife of Rev. T. B. H. Coleman.

"Safe in the arms of Jesus" was then sung and the memoirs were adopted.

On motion of A. Brown, the relation of H. Morris was changed from Supernumerary to Superannuated.

It was also ordered that the above named Brother should be donated ten dollars out of the funds of the Preachers' Aid Society.

A collection was then taken for the sexton amounting to \$6.

The business of the Conference having been finished, the minutes of the evening session were read, corrected and approved.

Bishop Scott requested W. J. Parker to read the appointments for the next year, which he did.

Geo. H. Waters offered a resolution with reference to the transfer of W. C. Dickerson. All then joined heartily in singing, "Together let us sweetly live: together let us die," after which Bishop Scott pronounced the Benediction, and the Conference adjourned *sine die*.

DELAWARE CON. 1879

REPORTS.

PRESIDING ELDER'S REPORTS.

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT.

To the Bishop and the Members of the Delaware Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now in session in Waugh M. E. Church, Cambridge, Md.

Dear Fathers and Brethren:—I now make my fourth annual report as Presiding Elder, and in doing so I beg leave to say that this has been a year of great peace to me personally.

The District consists of twenty circuits and stations; with forty-four churches; sixty-seven local preachers; fifty-four exhorters, and a membership of over twenty-five hundred.

I have traveled through the district systematically, and held, or caused to be held, eighty Quarterly Conferences and one District Conference.

The Brethren and I have worked together to carry out the plan of the Discipline on all the benevolent collections, and I think their reports will be good. The spiritual part of the work with few exceptions is good. Our people are becoming acquainted with personal and practical religion. They begin to find out the difference between formal and real religion, and only in those churches where the pastors encourage spasmodic formality is it much indulged in by the members. Our people are also becoming better educated, and are using our Methodist Hymns for all religious occasions.

Owing to the sore financial embarrassments some of our churches are in quite perplexed circumstances; but the pastors and people have been hard at work trying to pay off their old debts, and repair and build other churches.

Port Deposit Circuit is still somewhat embarrassed, but they have been working very hard this year, and under the leadership of their excellent pastor, W. H. Thomas, who has served them faithfully for two years, have so reduced the debt that they will be able to go forward in the future without much difficulty.

Odessa Circuit had some little trouble in the early part of the conference year, but under the skillful management of the pastor, Jas. A. Scott, it was settled. They have built a neat little school-house on their church lot, at Delaware City. It is all paid for, except about eighty dollars.

New Castle Circuit has organized a mission at Christiana, Del. They also purchased a lot at \$45, and raised \$15. They have finished their new brick church at New Castle; it was dedicated last December. There is a debt of only \$800 upon it. Everything on the circuit is moving along finely. T. M. Hubbard is pastor.

Bridgeton Circuit has had revivals at all the appointments, many have been added to the Church. The meetings are still very encouraging. They have paid much on an old debt on one church, put some repairs on another, and paid for it. There is harmony among the members. Noah Morris is pastor.

Salem Circuit is doing well under the pastoral charge of John Tilghman. Being guided by the spirit of the Master, peace and tranquility prevail. They are doing the best they can to pay off the debt on their new church.

Salem Station is still laboring under some financial embarrassment. The religious part is tolerably good. Geo. H. Waters, the pastor, has served them three years, and leaves the charge with many who would like, were it possible, to have him return.

The work on Mt. Zion Circuit is moving on peaceably. There is no special work going on, such as building and improving church property, but the circuit is not in debt. The religious part will compare favorably with some of the best on the District.

The pastor, Jehu H. Pearce, has been under very sore affliction, death having robbed him of a dear wife and child; but he has borne his losses with Christian fortitude.

John Wesley and Centreville Circuit has held her own both spiritually and financially, though at John Wesley they can never be much more than they are until something is done for the church. The Financial Board, with their earnest pastor, Peter Burrows, is trying to raise funds to enlarge and rebuild at a cost of \$3,000. We pray for their success.

Middletown has attached to it a very interesting mission at Mount Pleasant with a number of members. The other part of the circuit is not doing so well, owing to some dissatisfaction, but we trust it may soon revive. Wm. B. Green is pastor.

Smyrna Circuit is doing very well. The new church at Smyrna is in a good financial condition; they are in debt about \$200; not including the Building Association, to which they pay \$8 per month. They are making arrangements to raise \$150 at the commencement of the conference year. The religious condition is good. There was an almost unanimous vote, at the fourth Quarterly Conference, to divide the Circuit. Wm. H. Coffey is pastor.

Dover Circuit is in a better condition than it has been since the new church was built at Dover. The debts are so arranged that they can pay without much inconvenience. The church at Gum Swamp, which was burned some two years ago, has been rebuilt. There is very little debt. They have organized a mission at Camden with 15 or 20 members and a fine Sunday School. The circuit has five appointments. At the fourth Quarterly Conference they voted unanimously for a division of the circuit. J. H. Holland is pastor.

Milford Circuit is in a good condition every way. They have made many improvements both on church and parsonage. Perfect peace among the members reigns. D. J. Waters is pastor. He is the right man in the right place.

Frankford has a neat little church, built about eighteen months ago. They have paid but little. There is a standing debt including house and lot of \$800. The meetings are good. Samuel Laws, a local preacher, has been pastor for two years.

North Penn is doing very well spiritually. She had a splendid revival. Many have been converted this year who are destined to make good members. The most of them are heads of families. They are nearly out of debt, except what is due the Board of Church Extension. The city rents the church for school purposes at \$100 per year, which goes to pay off the above debt. Everything is moving along smoothly. A. W. Hamilton has been pastor for two years, and has done a good work.

Germantown is getting along as well as could be expected. P. W. Pipes, the pastor appointed by Bishop Harris at the last session of Conference, went home from the Conference sick, and died on the 26th of September, a great loss to the church; but our loss is his gain. After consulting with the Bishop and some of the brethren, I supplied it with a local preacher. This appointment did not prove satisfactory to the official board, and he left; after which I held it myself, and appointed A. W. Hamilton to attend the work in my absence. It is now in a more favorable condition.

Cape May Circuit has had a glorious revival this conference year, and has been ever since moving on nicely. The new church at Cape May Point, contemplated one year ago, has not yet been built, for what cause I can hardly tell. B. W. Allen is pastor.

Zoar Church is still in debt about \$700. But they work along cheerfully together. The mission, organized one year ago with 11 members, now numbers 72. W. C. Dickerson has closed up his third year and many would desire his return, if it were possible.

Chester also has a heavy debt. Improvements have been made at a cost of \$100 and paid the same; have kept up the financial affairs of the year well. W. M. Webb, the pastor, has been afflicted this year, but has sustained himself and finished his two years with great satisfaction to all.

Wilmington Circuit has three churches, viz: Whittington Chapel, Browntown and Simpson. The last came to us from the First United African Wesleyan M. E. Church in America, and was then in the Building Association. The conclusion was reached that enough had been paid. An offer was made to buy the claim. \$450 was desired, \$300 was offered and refused. We propose to buy it at public sale, and have \$50 toward that end in hand, and the promise of \$100 from the Board of Church Ex-

ension. With this exception all is well. I. H. White closes two years labor with great peace.

Wilmington Station is all alive. Having paid the debt on the new church, they held a jubilee and concert in April, which enabled them to raise between two and three hundred dollars. They have purchased a fine organ at a cost of \$1,100, upon which they have paid \$500 or \$600. Everything moves joyfully on. Peace be within her walls. W. F. Butler is pastor.

The Sunday-schools on the District will compare favorably with like institutions elsewhere. The Berean Lesson Leaves are used in most of the schools and greatly facilitate the study of the Holy Scriptures. We have not organized all our schools into Missionary Societies; some of our people failing to see the importance of it.

As to our Educational facilities, all the upper part of the District, consisting of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, have a free school system. The part lying in Delaware is sustained wholly by the people, assisted by a few friends. The small part of the District within the bounds of Maryland has the Public School System peculiarly its own.

Our people highly appreciate the efforts put forth for their mental, moral, and religious improvement, and are grasping each golden opportunity as it presents itself, and stamping it with some virtue which shall tell on the future of their race.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. PARKER, P. E.

CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT.

Dear Fathers and Brethren:—Having been permitted, through the Divine goodness, to complete the official labors of another year, I respectfully submit the following as my second annual report:

I desire to acknowledge the blessing of God, that has preserved me in health and kept my mind and heart in peace. The brethren and myself on the district have had good understanding with each other, and have enjoyed peace and tranquility. We have labored together to build up the Lord's Zion. The larger portion of this district last year, was known as the Smyrna District. Then there were four districts in the Delaware Conference. It was thought best, in the wise and godly judgment of the Board of Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, considering the great financial pressure surrounding us, to reduce the number of districts to three. This was done by the Bishop, W. L. Harris, D. D., who presided over the last session of our Conference. Cambridge District has now nineteen appointments, sixty-six churches and eleven parsonages.

Millington Circuit has five churches and one parsonage, and is in a tolerably good condition. J. S. Willis, pastor, first year. The interest in this circuit has advanced. The pastor and people have worked together harmoniously, and have had good revivals.

Still Pond Circuit has three churches, four congregations and one parsonage. C. Tuffett is putting forth a strong effort to purchase a building lot for the fourth church. The Sabbath-schools on this circuit are promising.

Sassafras Circuit, last year, when reported, was without lot or church, and had but a few members, yet a very large field for laborers to work in. This circuit was to be supplied. James Johnson was appointed to the charge, a young man full of zeal and energy. He has done well at this new charge. Though meeting with strong opposition, they have succeeded in purchasing a building lot in a beautiful locality, convenient for the people. They have also paid for it and got the deed, and have commenced to build a church 26x36. They have a very good Sabbath-school largely attended, and we pray that the little charge, though small, may be like the leaven the woman hid in three measures of meal, that it may continue to grow and spread broad and wide throughout the whole County.

Chestertown Circuit, Nathan Young, pastor, has two churches, one parsonage, regular congregations with very good Sabbath-schools, and is free from debts. This circuit is improving.

He was appointed to Germantown Station in 1877, where he labored with great acceptability and usefulness. At the last session of the Conference he was re-appointed to the same field of labor. But soon after his return home, he was taken very ill, and only met his official board once. He lingered for six long months, growing gradually worse, until finally we found all hopes of recovery were lost, so far as it concerned his earthly career. I visited him two days before his death. I found him, though seemingly struggling in death, singing:

"I'm going home no more to roam
From a world of sin and sorrow;
I'm going home to-morrow, etc."

So the day come when he should go over Jordan. While lying in Beulah Land, the last words he was heard to say were, "My soul is alive in Christ." The shining hosts met him, and this morning he is not, for on their bright pinions they have borne him to a brighter land above.

LYDIA ELSEY.

Lydia Elsey, widow of the late Wilmore S. Elsey, departed this life Jan. 6th, 1879. She was converted early in life and joined the M. E. Church. Sister Elsey was a mother in Zion. The Sabbath before she was stricken down she attended church three times, and with the sacramental host partook of the emblems of the broken body, and shed blood of the Lord Jesus. In a few days she passed away to the spirit land where old age, affliction and death, can never come.

PATIENCE MORRIS.

Patience Morris, mother of the Rev. Noah Morris, died in the full triumph of faith, in Cumberland Co., N. J. She was born in Somerset Co., Md., some time in the year 1789. At an early age she sought and found the Lord, and joined the M. E. Church, where she remained a faithful member, until Jan. 27th, 1879, when in great triumph she shouted victory over all her enemies, and lodged in Emmanuel's breast.

ADALINE PIERCE.

Adaline Pierce, wife of the Rev. J. H. Pierce, was born in Fordsville, Cumberland Co., N. J., on the Fourth of July, in the year 1844. She was converted in the Christian faith, and joined the M. E. Church at an early age, and lived a devoted Christian life. After three month's severe illness, during which she never murmured or complained, on the 11th day of February, 1879, she fell asleep in the arms of Jesus, triumphant over death.

Elbert J. Pierce, son of the Rev. J. H. Pierce and the deceased Adaline Pierce, also died January 15th, 1879, in his fifth year. Mother and son are safe in the arms of Jesus.

SARAH E. PARKER.

Sarah E. Parker, daughter of the Rev. W. J. Parker, Presiding Elder, and Mary Parker, his wife, was converted in Dorchester Co., Md., on March 7th, 1877, and attached herself to the Mt. Hope M. E. Church, in the city of Salem, N. J., where she gave clear evidence that she was in full possession of that religion that would sustain her in the time of affliction and save her in the hour of death.

Some time in the year 1877 she was taken seriously ill. For one year and a half she was compelled to stay in her room, unable to walk, and almost one year she was helpless on her bed. But in this her faith and patience failed her not. When visited she would say, "This is good for me; this light affliction, which is but for a moment, will work out for me a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." During her affliction she talked as a prophetess and sung like one near the throne of God. And on the 23rd day of December, 1878, after singing a few verses of one of her favorite hymns, she bade father and mother, brother and sisters, farewell, and with a smile on her countenance, she closed her natural eyes in death, and, no doubt, with her spirit gazed upon the beauty of the City of the Great King. Her body now is sleeping, and will sleep until the trump of God shall wake it up anew and clothe it in robes of immortality.

The Sunday-schools of the District in some places are very fine, and every effort is being made to render them even more successful. Our people are beginning to believe that the future success of the church depends upon the present prosperity of the Sunday-schools, and as they begin to see and believe this, they are coming up to their duties in this respect more than ever.

Our educational work on the district is improving. New school-houses have been built, and parents are beginning to wake up on the question of educating their children.

In regard to the benevolent collections on the District, myself and many of the pastors have given attention to this part of our duty, and yet, on account of the hardness of the times, we fear that they will fall behind. We hope for the best.

Respectfully submitted,

A. BROWN, P. E.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO WAUGH CHURCH.

To the Bishop and Members of the Delaware Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Greeting:—It is with inexpressible gratitude that we hail the return of this Conference to Cambridge, Md., after the lapse of nine years, when it was cordially received and accommodated by the friends of Cambridge to the very best of their ability. Many glorious and encouraging results followed the occasion.

The inconvenient and somewhat dilapidated old frame building, which occupied this spot of ground at that time, has since developed into the more beautiful and commodious brick edifice in which you are now assembled, and which we esteem as a glorious manifestation of the influence of the first session of the Delaware Conference in this place. Besides, we believe that it was the means of many precious souls being converted to God and added to the church.

The Conference was then comparatively in its infant state, but has since grown successfully to manhood, both in numbers and intellect; and therefore we believe that by the assistance of God, a more powerful influence will be manifested during this present session, and that greater results will follow.

The ravages of death have moved from the stage of action many of the members and friends of Waugh Chapel who stood here to welcome you nine years ago. A number from your ranks, of the fathers who bore the burden and heat of the day have fallen asleep, and a number of your noble sons who bade fair for the great future have also passed away. Yet, notwithstanding these facts, the work goes steadily on.

With these few remarks, in behalf of the members and congregation of Waugh Chapel and the citizens of Cambridge, I welcome you to this Christian community and to the enjoyment of their hospitality, and also to our prayers, that the Great Head of the church may bless, preserve and guide you in all your deliberations, that peace and harmony and brotherly love may prevail throughout the entire session, and that the ensuing Conference year may be one of abundant success and a year of jubilee.

FRATERNAL ADDRESS FROM THE A. M. E. CHURCH

Rev. Bishop Scott and ministers of the Delaware Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, this comes with greeting to your honorable body, and hoping that the blessings of Almighty God may attend you, and that your session may be a pleasant one in Cambridge. Sirs, in extending this fraternal greeting, we wish you to understand that we desire to live in union with all men, and especially with all Christian churches. Therefore we stand in your midst upon the above thought as ministers from the A. M. E. Church, whose history is familiar with all church historians in this country.

I. Allow me to call your attention to the organization of the Delaware Conference. On a beautiful summer morning, sixteen years ago, the sun rose without a cloud to give light upon the ushering into existence of the Delaware Conference, which has taken its place with other Conferences in the great work of spreading the grand old

truth of Methodism in this country. Sirs, as the rays of the sun of sixteen summers ago became more and more brilliant until it reached the zenith, all nature seemed to shout for joy at the future prospects of Methodism in Delaware and on the eastern shore of Maryland. On the 24th of July, 1863, the Delaware Conference was organized, of which you have the honor of being members. On that day you gave your adag to the breeze of heaven, saying, in the name and strength of the Lord of Hosts, we will go forth in spreading the doctrines of Methodism in Delaware and Maryland. No doubt, at first, each member and friend hailed the event with joy, believing that a brighter day was dawning upon the religious destiny of the colored race. No doubt this calmness has often since then been disturbed. Storms and winds of persecution have met you; but it is a pleasant thought to know that you have obtained help from God, and can say, Grace has brought us safe thus far, and grace will take us home.

II. The doctrine of unification has been talked of among the various branches of the Methodist families in this country. The M. E. Church, North, and the M. E. Church, South, have been courting each other upon this question of a union. The A. M. E. Church and the Zion A. M. E. Church have done the same thing. We are not indifferent to the fact, and believe the good time is coming, and ought to be now, when all of the members of the great Methodist family shall be one, forming one grand invincible army that shall go forward in the glorious work of publishing the glad tidings of salvation to a ruined world. But the doctrine of unification will not be fulfilled until prejudice on account of color shall disappear like dew before the morning sun, and a perfect recognition of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man take its place. Although the Methodist family is divided up into different parts, it is a pleasant thought to think that we have accomplished something in the past toward the elevation of suffering humanity to the higher planes of life. Your church has elevated her Simpson, Janes, and last, but not the least, her Scott. The A. M. E. Church has elevated her Allen, Payne, Wayman and Brown. All these have been elevated to the higher planes of life by their respective churches. The Zion A. M. E. Church has given the world the benefit of her Clinton and her Moore. So you see, although divided, each branch has done something toward the upbuilding of suffering humanity.

III. Although divided into different branches and led by different generals, we glory in the idea that our faith and doctrine are the same. As Methodists, we preach one doctrine. We agree in essentials, and disagree in non-essentials.

1. We preach that we are all one in Christ Jesus by faith.
2. We preach that God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him.
3. We preach that all men are privileged to partake of the atonement of Christ.
4. Our faith and doctrine are the same, wherein we preach that out of one blood hath God created all men. And the declaration of the independence of this country is founded upon this idea. The fathers of this country preached this doctrine in 1776. Now, Rev. Bishop and Brethren, when we, as Bishops, Elders, Deacons and Licentiate, shall blend these two ideas together, one in the Bible, and the other in the declaration of independence, that out of one blood hath God created all men, and the other, all men are created free and equal, and preach it without favor, fear or affection, then shall we see the fulfilment of the doctrine of unification. Then, as watchmen upon the walls of Zion, we shall sing, "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth and good will toward men." Methodism will then take the wings of the morning and fly to the uttermost parts of the earth, and then, as Bishops, ministers and members, we will shout, "The Lord God omnipotent reigneth."

RESPONSE BY REV. W. J. PARKER.

The representatives of the A. M. E. Church, having presented their address of Greeting, Rev. W. J. Parker said:

"We are here to give you a hearty greeting, and our hands. It is the duty of all Methodist bodies to come, at all hazards, in love at some place. So we are here to-day. We were the first morning star, that rose sixteen years ago. Then we were a small,

feeble band of farmers, not exceeding twenty in number. Brethren, this Delaware Annual Conference—the first one of color in the world, has grown to be a great power in Methodism. Since the organization of this Conference, we have grown to almost two hundred thousand members, and eighteen Annual Conferences. We have had clean men—good men, to build up this holy Methodism; and to-day we have south of Mason & Dixon's line, one hundred and ninety thousand (190,000) members. [Applause.]

We acknowledge that you went out from us several years ago, and had about sixty years start of us; but, during the last fifteen years, we have come alongside of you. We are not prejudiced against you. There is no need of fighting. *No, No!* I believe it was a good thing for us that the split took place in the Church: it made men industrious; it brought about that enthusiasm amongst men that made them study the interests of the Church. I looked at our glorious Methodism as the Apostle's ship—the ship went to pieces, but they all escaped safe to land. So are we; though sailing under different banners, we are all under one Captain: and I believe the time is not far in the distance, when all of the Methodist bodies of the globe shall be one. [Great Applause.] We meet you; we acknowledge that you have gone some sixty-five years ahead of us; and that only sixteen years ago we started, with a few farmers, uneducated in the extreme. We had no schools; but, to-day, we stand right along side of you, in these respects. We intend to run you a fair race in preaching, education and intelligence. Look on the faces of our twenty Annual Conferences; and you will see intelligence stamped on every feature. You have your Paine, Brown, Allen, Wayman, &c. We have our Butler, our Thomas, our Fisher, and others. So while you, in your Church extend to us these fraternal greetings, I am here to meet you on every hand. You have your thousands; and soon shall we cheer you with our thousands of tongues. 'Hold the fort; for we are coming.' Go on; we intend to give you a race in intelligence, and in getting people to glory. Go on in this mighty work. Sirs, we extend to you this fraternal greeting.

Allow me, again to call your attention to this fact: Sixteen years ago the Delaware Annual Conference was organized. The rays of the sun sixteen years ago, when we were organized in 1864, have raised up our Conference to the winds of heaven, and we have moved faster than all the Methodist Episcopal bodies put together. By the grace of God this blessed doctrine of Methodism has been preached, and men of all Churches and races have been made to believe in one true and living way. And in this union our people have been made better. [Applause.] We have our Simpson, Harris, and others; you have your Allen, Paine and Logan; our gospel is the same. Thank God we agree in essentials, and are learning not to disagree in non-essentials. Our faith and doctrines are the same, independent of this republic—one in the Bible.

O, may we teach our people to lay aside the old existing prejudices of the past, and let the loud hallelujahs of the one Church be sung, and over all the earth prevail."

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SERVICES.

Notwithstanding the stormy weather on Saturday evening, Sunday morning broke forth in great beauty. Long before the hour arrived for public service, thousands of persons were crowding their way through the streets toward the place of worship. Others were impatiently awaiting the summoning bells to call them to the places where divine services were to be held.

Conference Love Feast began at 9 o'clock, in Waugh's Chapel, under the direction of Rev. Fathers Hinson and Gibbs. Finally the presence of the Lord was in our midst.

PREACHING SERVICES.

At 11 o'clock Bishop Scott preached in the Court House to a large congregation. The sermon was one that will be long remembered by all present. The sermon was followed by the Ordination of Deacons.

Waugh's Chapel.

Geo. H. Waters preached in the main audience room, and Geo. W. Young preached in the lecture room.

H. A. Monroe preached in the A. M. E. Church.

3 o'clock P. M.

In the Court House.

Wm. F. Butler preached to the satisfaction of a large and appreciative audience.

In Waugh's Chapel.

N. M. Carroll, of the Washington Conference, preached a very interesting sermon, which was followed by the Ordination of Elders.

In the A. M. E. Church.

Noah Morris preached with great power, and many hearts were made to rejoice.

EVENING—8 o'clock.

In the Court House.

A. B. Wilson, of the Washington Conference, preached a delightful sermon.

In Waugh's Chapel.

Wm. H. Thomas occupied the pulpit, giving the gospel trumpet the sound that made the people feel it is good to be here.

In the A. M. E. Church.

Asbury Grinage preached an awakening sermon, and many amens and hallelujahs were uttered. The day was spent profitably, and the name of the Lord was magnified in the eyes of the people of Cambridge.

MEMOIRS.

BISHOP EDWARD RAYMOND AMES, D. D., LL. D.

WHEREAS, it has pleased almighty God, in the wise yet inscrutable orderings of his dealings with his people, to remove from the head of our denomination one of our beloved Board of Bishops, Rev. Edward Raymond Ames, D. D., LL. D., since our last annual session; and,

WHEREAS, it is meet and proper, that having shared, and still partaking of the benefits of his wise and godly counsel, in the bringing of the church of our choice up to her present position of eminence and influence, we should place on record our appreciation of his worth and work; therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of the Rev. E. R. Ames, D. D., the church of which we are a part has lost a wise and safe counsellor, a true and steadfast friend, a prompt, efficient and judicious presiding officer, and a man of godly spirit and true, earnest Christian piety. And be it further

Resolved, That we will cherish his memory in our heart of hearts, where a recollection of his noble deeds shall be enshrined, until the pearly gate shall open to us, and we stand within the hallowed enclosures of the Celestial City and renew with him and others, friendships and acquaintances formed by us during this fleeting life; and be it further

Resolved, That this action of our Conference be entered upon the regular records of the Conference, and be printed in the Minutes, as a testimony of our tender and Christian regards for our departed Bishop.

SOLOMON COOPER.

Rev. Solomon Cooper was born in Easton, Talbot County, Md., in 1824, and died at Wilmington, Del., December 26th, 1877. He was reared under Christian influences no doubt, and during his time in early life, he got a pretty good education, without the privilege of ever entering a School House or College. He was converted in 1840, in Big Bethel Church, in Baltimore, Md., and there joined the visible church, became a faithful observer of the forms of religion, and a citizen without reproach. We have heard him say, that just before the Morning Star of Freedom arose, that led four millions of slaves to the perfect day of liberty, he took the North Star, and vis-

ited Canada, staying until the death of slavery, and afterwards settled in the northern parts of Pennsylvania. When the foundation of the Delaware Annual Conference was laid, and the sons of God came together in 1869, we find our brother, Solomon Cooper, seeking for admission, and was received on the best recommendations that any one could produce. He became an able minister of the Gospel of Christ, and a great worker in building churches.

The work he has done in building up the church of Christ, will tell generations unborn, that such a one has passed over this way. He served as Pastor of Port Deposit, Md., John Wesley and Centreville, N. J., Bridgeton and Goshen, N. J. Dover, Del., E. Zion, Wilmington, Del., and as Presiding Elder of Smyrna District, one year and five months. He leaves five children to mourn their loss. He dropped his earthly mantle, took the chariot of his and our Father and rode to heaven, from which we hear a voice, saying: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labor, and their works do follow them."

JOHN G. MANLUFF.

Rev. John G. Manluff was born in Milford, Kent Co., Del., sometime in the year 1814. He was converted when about twenty-one years of age, and joining the Methodist Episcopal Church he at once began to exercise his gifts in exhortation, giving evidence of his earnest desire for the salvation of sinners and the building up of the cause of Christ, and also that he was divinely called to preach the gospel of the kingdom to a world of sinners. In due time he was licensed as an Exhorter, and after giving much satisfaction in this relation and showing by his gifts, grace and usefulness his qualifications for a higher position, he was duly licensed as a Local Preacher, and continuing to labor with zeal and success he was ordained Deacon, and subsequently also an Elder in the church of God.

He was one of the lively stones, gathered out of the Local Conference, as a foundation for the Delaware Annual Conference, organized in 1864. In this Conference he filled prominent positions, and preached the gospel in its purity with power and very great success. About three weeks before he died, he said, while preaching at one of his churches on Centreville Circuit, "Brethren and Sisters, I am preaching my last sermon. I am soon going to glory, and I want you to sing me across Jordan." The next week he was taken ill and remained so until the ministering angels were in waiting to take his soul home to glory. On the thirtieth day of January, 1879, he said, "My time has come; sing me this song. 'What's this that steals upon my frame? Is it death? Is it death? If this be death I soon shall be from every sin and sorrow free; I shall the King of glory see; all is well! all is well!'"

While this was being sung he said, "Raise me up while I shout my way over Jordan." While earthly kind hands raised up the dying body, angel's pinions were extended to carry the happy soul to realms of heavenly light and eternal joy. So he passed away to his home in heaven. The last word he was heard to say was "glory."

"O may we triumph so,
When all our warfare's past;
And dying find our latest foe
Under our feet at last."

PERRY W. PIPES.

Rev. Perry W. Pipes was born in Millington, Kent Co., Md., in March of the year 1845. He was converted in early life and attached himself to the M. E. Church. It was very soon found that he had a special gift for the work of the church, in bringing sinners to Jesus, and from the power of sin and satan unto God. He was licensed to exhort in Newcastle Co., on Newcastle Circuit, and in the year 1872 he was also licensed to preach, which he did with uncommon power.

In the summer of 1876 he was found amongst those who, with only one desire, and that to save souls from eternal death, were received on trial, at the Annual Conference, held at Snow Hill, Worcester Co., Md., and was appointed to the North Penn Circuit, where he labored very successfully for three successive years. He was ordained Deacon in 1878, at the session of the Delaware Annual Conference, held at Zoar M. E. Church, Philadelphia.