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Methodist Episcopal Church, South

VII. MEMOIRS.

REV. CHARLES M. ANDERSON.

BY W. F. WOMBLE.

Rev. Charles M. Anderson was born in Forsyth County, N. C., January 31, 1829, and died in Morganton, N. C., March 28th, 1908, in his 80th year.

Brother Anderson was converted in Forsyth County, N. C., at sixteen years of age, and joined the the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Antioch Church, under the ministry of Rev. J. D. Lumsden. He was appointed class leader when quite young, and served the Church faithfully as class leader, Sunday School superintendent, exhorter, and local preacher until 1852, when, at Louisburg, N. C., he was admitted on trial into the North Carolina Conference. He was ordained deacon in 1854 by Bishop Early, and by the same Bishop ordained elder in 1856. The following are in part the appointments served by him: Kenansville Circuit, Bladen Circuit, Kenansville Circuit again, South Fork Circuit, Newton Circuit, Hickory Circuit, Morganton Circuit, and Greenville Station. At the end of his second year on this charge, in 1885, he was superannuated, which relation he sustained until his death.

In 1858, Brother Anderson was married to Miss Mary Eliza Eccles, daughter of Mr. Henry Eccles, of Clemmonsville, N. C., who shared with him the experiences of an itinerant life until December 18th, 1906, when she passed from labor to reward.

Having a clear call to the Master's work, Brother Anderson early in life turned his energies toward a preparation of head, as well as of heart, and at the common schools of that day, and Union Institute, in Randolph County, N. C., known later as Trinity College, he laid the foundation for what proved to be a lengthy life of usefulness in God's service.

Brother Anderson was a very humble and modest man. He was satisfied to be estimated at his true worth. Hence, he always went cheerfully to the work to which he was assigned, and you never heard him complaining that he was not appreciated. Although a modest man, he had strong convictions and had the "courage of his convictions." Being persuaded that he was correct in his views, he dared to maintain them anywhere and in any presence.

He was a good financier. His daughter said of him: "Though he traveled very large circuits when the pay was almost nothing, yet I never knew him to leave an appointment in debt. At times it would take some of his most valuable books to meet his obligations, but he met them without a murmur."

After his superannuation in 1885, Brother Anderson lived in Morganton, N. C., where the writer was intimately associated with him. Was with him when his wife breathed her last; was with him in his last hours; can testify that his home life and devotion to his family was beautiful; his religious experience was clear and steadfast; his character pure and strong; his influence wholesome and kindly. "Those who knew him best loved him most." One who knew him well said of him, to be in

his presence was to be in an atmosphere of purity and power. He was specially gifted in prayer. His petitions were always full of earnestness and faith. It seemed clear that there were often direct answers to his prayers, so much so that many, in times of trouble and affliction, sought his help, expecting his prayers to be answered. A few weeks before his death, the postmaster in Morganton received a letter from a person in a distant town, who was in trouble, saying that the writer had heard of a man in Morganton whose prayers were always answered, and asking him to deliver the letter to that man. The letter was at once delivered to Brother Anderson. Even the evil doers acknowledged that they were afraid of his prayers.

For twenty-five years or more Brother Anderson had been in feeble health and at times was a great sufferer, but he bore his afflictions with heroic fortitude and quiet submission, till God said "it is enough", then, without a struggle, like an infant falling into sweet slumber, he "fell on sleep."

We shall miss him, but let us cherish his memory and emulate his Godly example.

REV. L. W. CRAWFORD, D. D.

BY D. ATKINS.

Rev. Leonidas Wakefield Crawford, D. D., was born in Rowan County, N. C., April 5, 1842, and died in Asheville, N. C., February 21, 1908.

His boyhood was spent on a farm and attending the public school in Salisbury. After spending six months in Olin Academy, he enlisted in the Confederate army and was commissioned second lieutenant in the Forty-Second North Carolina Regiment. He took part in many hard-fought battles, and in every case displayed that dauntless courage which was a marked characteristic in all his life-work. It was after he had charged within the breastworks of the enemy that he was taken prisoner, where he was held until after the war had closed. Returning home he spent two years in Olin Academy, and then two years in the University of Virginia and graduated in English and Moral Philosophy.

He was admitted on trial into the North Carolina Conference in 1868, and the forty years of his splendid and fruitful ministry were spent in pastoral work, as professor in college, as editor and presiding elder in the places and at the times indicated as follows: Hillsboro, pastor, four years; Salisbury, four years; Fayetteville, four years; second term in Salisbury, one year; Greensboro four years; Newbern, four years; Greensboro, second term, one year, at the end of which he was elected professor of Biblical Literature in Trinity College, which place he filled four years. Reidsville as pastor, two years; editor of the North Carolina Christian Advocate five years. While editor he organized Spring Garden Street Church, which he served four years. Reidsville, second term, three years; in 1907, presiding elder of the Asheville District. He entered upon this work with his usual zeal and in a very short time won the confidence and love of the people, but the severe climate in midwinter was too much for his delicate physical condition. He contracted a deep cold, which developed into pneumonia, which resulted in his death.

Attention is called to the scope and variety of Dr. Crawford's work as preacher, pastor, professor, editor and presiding elder,