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OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church

HELD AT

First Church, Atlantic City, N. J.

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And so our great-hearted, genial "John," for so we loved to call him, with saintly, smiling face and generous glad hand and winsome word of welcome, has gone to be a citizen of the happy heaven, where just such folks as he are sure to be found without number. We shall sadly miss him over here, but he will be at home over there.

The immediate cause of his death was uremic poisoning, probably super-induced by weakness brought on by his unceasing labors at Gloucester City during the epidemic. He died as he lived—smiling. He literally smiled his way into heaven.

Impressive funeral services were held in First Church, Gloucester City, on Monday, July 21, with District Superintendent Alfred Wagg presiding, and participated in by Revs. Davies, Pennington Corson, John B. Haines, Carlton R. Van Hook, U. G. Hagaman, W. W. Westcott and H. R. Robinson, and Messrs. John Davis and Wm. Bradway. The services at the grave at Sharptown were conducted by Revs. Davies, B. F. Buck, Pennington Corson and F. L. Jewett.

Bro. Nickelson is survived by his wife and daughter Dorothy and two sisters and a brother—Mrs. Lewis Waltman, of Millville; Mrs. Sylvester Bishop, of Eldora, and Stacy Nickelson, of Vineland.

H. RIDGELY ROBINSON.

JOSEPH LANNING ROE

JOSEPH LANNING ROE, son of Gilbert B. and Mary E. Roe, was born in the Capital City of New Jersey, August 30, 1838; converted in his young manhood—January 25, 1856, in the Green Street Church, Trenton, now the First Church, then under Richard Vanhorne, pastor. He was educated in the city schools and Pennington Seminary, under Dr. I. W. Wiley, principal. He joined the Conference in 1863 with eight other young men, viz: W. S. Zane, C. C. Eastlack, L. O. Manchester, G. L. Dobbins, D. H. Schock, J. E. Adams, J. B. Turpin and J. H. Mickle.

In 1879 he was elected as fourth assistant secretary of the Conference; in 1884 as journalist, and in 1893 he was made secretary, following G. B. Wight, who the year before had been made presiding elder. Brother Roe held the office of secretary until appointed in 1897 by Bishop Warren presiding elder of New Brunswick district.

Among the appointments he has served may be found Woodbury, Central and Trinity, Bridgeton; Trinity, Millville; Broad Street, Burlington; Broadway, Salem; First Church, Atlantic City; Cape May City, Clayton and Freehold. He was elected delegate to the General Conference in 1896 held at Cleveland.

After serving the full term of presiding elder he was appointed to Vineland and then to Gloucester City, each for four years; then to Medford for two years, which closed his fiftieth year in the active work. Here he asked to be retired and moved to Collingswood in 1913.

Brother Roe was actively interested in the Preachers' Aid Society and gave \$2,500 to that organization prior to his death. He also gave \$5,000 to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension. His daughter, Miss Mame Roe, gave \$1,200 to the New Jersey Conference Deaconess Home in Camden. Brother Roe's beloved wife and daughter preceded him to the glory land. He died on Wednesday afternoon, July 23, 1919, at 2 o'clock. His funeral was held on Friday, July 25th, at 8 p. m. in Collingswood, N. J., his late home. The next day his mortal remains were borne to Trenton,



N. J., his native city, and interred in Riverview Cemetery. The funeral services were in charge of Alexander Corson, district superintendent; G. H. Neal, M. E. Snyder and others were present and took part in the services at the house and cemetery.

[The first three paragraphs of this memoir were written by Brother Roe's own hand, and by his special request are published here.]

GEORGE H. NEAL.

AARON EDWARD BALLARD

WHEN the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church met in the city of New York in 1844, Brother Aaron E. Ballard was present at its sessions and witnessed the disruption of the church on the question of negro slavery. Is there another Methodist minister now living who was present and witnessed that event? I know of none.

At the time of his departure Brother Ballard was the patriarch of the New Jersey Conference. He had become a conspicuous landmark in the church, like some tall, shapely tree flourishing for nearly a century upon its eminence. But the stately cedars of Lebanon go down under the accumulating weight of years, even as the tender grass is cut down and withereth.

Aaron Edward Ballard was born in Bloomfield, N. J., December 25, 1820; he departed November 27, 1919. It is worthy of note that his two sisters, and also his daughter, Anna, were born on Christmas Day. He joined the New Jersey Conference in 1844. He served in the pastorate thirty-two years; in the presiding eldership eight years; twelve years as state temperance agent; twenty-three years as supernumerary and retired. He was also secretary of the American and Foreign Church Union, and president of the Evangelical Church Commission. In 1850 he was married to Miss Emily Young, of Morristown, N. J. Four children were added to the family. He survived the wife and children. In 1887 he was married to Miss Anna Miller, of Philadelphia, who, with their only child, Anna, survives him. He was not a man of robust constitution. In his second pastorate he was prostrated by an attack of brain fever, the result of overwork. In the year 1852, at Princeton, he suffered from hemorrhages of the lungs, which many thought would speedily terminate fatally, but such was his vitality that he soon recovered. And that supreme vitality and recuperating energy brought him safely through many another illness, as well as severe and painful accidents.

His opportunities for an early education were few. From the age of nine he was obliged to become a breadwinner for the family, but his desire for knowledge was always intense. He soon learned to read and in the intervals of his labor devoted himself to reading such books as he could secure for self-improvement, especially Shakespeare and other English classics for "style and vocabulary," as he expressed it, also ancient and modern history. He keenly felt his defect and so applied himself that he came to know something of Latin, Greek and Hebrew, but claimed no proficiency in these languages. And thus through his whole life he was an indefatigable reader. In traveling he always carried a book or magazine, and kept himself abreast with the news of the day, the affairs of the state, the church and society. He always knew what was going on in the world.

He has been styled a politician. It is true that for many years he was one of the most active and successful lobbyists in our State Legislature. He knew its personnel from year to year as well as any one, and feared no man.



But he was working, not for himself, nor any political party. It was to secure the passage of a local option bill, in which he succeeded, and several counties in the State went dry, and others were ready to do so. But just at that time the temperance people, disagreeing on methods and polity, were defeated in the Legislature, and in a short time the local option bill was repealed. And again for many years he labored in the Legislature as the champion of the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association. Its charter, its autonomy, its very existence were threatened more than once in the Legislature of the State, by organized opposition, both active and strong, but by means of pen and tongue and personal appeal, by day and night, by incessant activity he won his case in every instance.

The life of Dr. Ballard was essentially connected with camp meeting interests in New Jersey. In 1867 he held a camp meeting at Vineland on his own responsibility, which he stated was the most notable camp meeting, in the conversion of sinners and sanctification of believers, that had ever been held in the state. It so impressed Inskip, Osborn, Cookman and others who participated, that the idea of a permanent camp meeting took favorable shape, and Ocean Grove and Pitman Grove were the result. He was one of the charter members of Ocean Grove, also its vice-president and president. He was one of the original stockholders of Pitman Grove, and its president for forty-six years. It was his skillful management that brought Pitman Grove out of its early financial difficulties and to its present high state of stability and success. He was a man of very pronounced religious convictions and profound Christian experience. Devout, reverent, holding conscious fellowship with God, who was to him, as he frequently expressed it, "the most real being in all the universe, a personal friend, nearer than any other."

The departure of Dr. Ballard was quiet, sudden, but not unexpected. Rev. J. W. Marshall was beside his couch a few hours before he passed away, and read the twenty-third psalm, at which Dr. Ballard said: "That is the psalm my mother recited on her deathbed, these words were on her lips when she died." The body was placed in St. Paul's Church, Ocean Grove, on Sunday afternoon, and lay in state from 3.30 until 7.00. Between these hours multitudes viewed the body. Every mark of respect was paid to the memory of Dr. Ballard. At the time of the public service in the church on Monday morning the building was filled with men and women representing all walks of life. T. J. J. Wright, pastor of St. Paul's Church, conducted the services; F. A. DeMaris read the ritual; prayer was offered by John Handley; eulogies were pronounced by J. W. Marshall, who represented the Ocean Grove Association; J. D. Bills, who spoke for the New Jersey Conference, and a paper prepared by the directors of the Pitman Grove Camp Meeting Association was read by D. H. Schock. Bishop Luther B. Wilson, unavoidably absent, sent a telegram of regret and condolence. There was also a telegram from the White House, conveying the sympathy of President Wilson, who was for many years a friend of Dr. Ballard. Bishop Joseph F. Berry spoke for the Board of Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, testifying to the brilliancy and power of Dr. Ballard as a minister, the greatness of his mind, of his heart and of his service to the Methodist Episcopal Church. He said it was only once in a lifetime that people were permitted to assemble at the funeral of one who had lived so long and personally touched so many lives. "Multitudes have met Dr. Ballard, seen his face, heard his voice and carried away lasting impressions of him. There will be mourning in many homes and sadness in thousands of hearts. Our attitude is one of sympathy, but also of participation in a coronation. His was a great, a serviceable, a victorious and in an unusual way a complete life."

At the conclusion of the services all that was mortal of Aaron E. Ballard was taken to Bloomfield, N. J., and laid to rest in the Ballard family plot in the cemetery. "Blessed are they that wash their robes, that they may have the right to come to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city."

D. H. SCHOCK.

an able and inspiring leader. She went as a bride to Wenonah. While there, the Gloucester county Sunday school convention was held in Kemble Church, Woodbury, and the afternoon address was by the late Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, upon "The Baptism of the Holy Spirit." On her return home she thoughtfully surrendered herself wholly to God, and received the assurance of full salvation, and continued in that grace to the end. She was refined in her tastes and habits, generous and hospitable in her manner and delighted in making her home a place of happiness and comfort for her loved ones. Her devotion to her husband was extraordinary, and nothing that she could do for his comfort was ever neglected. In June, 1912, she suffered a nervous collapse as the result of a double bereavement. The final sickness began with an attack of acute indigestion on February 24th. Everything that human skill and care could do, was promptly done, but in spite of this, she passed quietly out of this life and entered the homeland on Sunday, April 13, 1919. She leaves a husband and a son, Edward, of Roselle Park, N. J., and a brother, Edgar Y. Dobbins, of Camden.

The funeral service was conducted at her late home in the parsonage at Woodbury, in charge of Alexander Corson, district superintendent. Prayer was offered by Dr. William Bamford, of Philadelphia. Short addresses were delivered by Alfred Wagg, superintendent of Bridgeton district; Dr. George H. Neal, of Collingswood, and by the writer. The benediction was pronounced by C. S. Lawrence, a classmate of Dr. Zellej. Floral tributes were many. Interment was made at Mount Holly.

F. A. DEMARIS.

MRS. EYVILINE SARAH HICKS

EYVILINE SARAH GARNER, wife of Brother Thomas H. Hicks, was born in Willingham, Cambridgeshire, England, and died in the Methodist Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia, July 18, 1919. Following the ordination and reception of Brother Hicks into the Montana Conference, Miss Garner journeyed from England to be married to the man of her choice August 6, 1896, by George C. Stahl, a presiding elder of that Conference. Sister Hicks was well prepared for her life work by superior educational training in her home land, and had earned the degree of Master of Literature. Hers was a rare Christian spirit, and during the twenty-three years of their happy married life she was a great inspiration to her husband in his work. While of a retiring nature, and always physically frail, she was a woman of pleasing personality and was never known to speak unkindly of any. When, after much suffering, she knew her days were numbered, it was with the sweet spirit of resignation she fell asleep in Jesus. During the years of her itinerant life she made many friends on the charges where she lived. Sister Hicks is survived by her husband, an honored member of this Conference, and one daughter, Sarah Lillian Hicks, who is a senior student in the Trenton State Normal School. Funeral services were held in the Alloway Methodist Episcopal Church in charge of District Superintendent Alfred Wagg, assisted by Alonzo Chambers. A. D. Ward officiated at the interment, which was at Wenonah, N. J. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

J. B. J. RHODES.

MRS. JOSEPHINE BEDELL GARRISON

JOSEPHINE BEDELL GARRISON, a product of nature and grace, passed from earthly toil to her eternal reward in the early hours of July 10, 1919, leaving suddenly bereft her beloved husband, Joseph Garrison, of the New Jersey Conference, with whom she had toiled so faithfully through a long and eminently successful ministry. Three daughters also mourn a "mother dear departed"—Mrs. Adelaide G. Kulp, widow of the late Joseph Casper Kulp; Mrs. Ellen M. Johnston, wife of Noble R. Johnston, of Scranton, Pa., and Miss Belle S. Garrison, of Pitman. Mrs. Garrison, the subject of this memoir, was born in Brooklyn, N. Y.,