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PHILADELPHIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

CONVENED IN

UNION M. E. CHURCH,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

MARCH 11, 1896.

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d more than 1900 have made a profession. We are, also, very grateful for the churches.

ctfully submitted,

J. S. HUGHES, *Presiding Elder.*

Memoirs.

REV. JOSEPH CARLILE.

The Rev. Joseph Carlile was born in Wigton, England, June 9, 1804, and died in Media, Pa., August 25, 1895, in the ninety-second year of his age. His funeral services were attended in the Media Methodist Episcopal Church, Tuesday, August 27, 1895, being in charge of the pastor, Rev. Henry Wheeler; Revs. Dr. T. M. Griffith, J. Lindemuth, H. T. Quigg, J. W. Miles, Dr. Tully of the Presbyterian Church and Rev. W. R. Patton of the Baptist Church, all shared in the exercises, which were characterized by solemnity, brotherly affection and a high appreciation of the pure life, manly character, and Christian virtue of the deceased. His remains were laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery at Media to await the resurrection of the just.

Our brother was converted in early life and united with the Methodist Church in England. His talent was soon recognized, and he received license to preach. With his credentials as a local preacher, he and his wife came to the United States in 1832. He united with the Philadelphia Conference in 1835.

Among the members of his class, which numbered twenty, were such distinguished men as George Lacy, John McClintock, Jr., George Barton, John A. Roche, Henry Sutton, Ignatius T. Cooper and Pannel Coomb. His early ministry stands identified with the men who compacted Methodism, and at the same time preserved its simplicity and energy as a great system for propagating Scriptural holiness. All preceded him to the land of rest except the beloved and venerable John A. Roche, D.D. He was an effective minister for twenty-eight years, and held a supernumerary or superannuated relation for thirty-two years, thus having a connection with the Conference for sixty years, and was the oldest member of that body.

From the spring of 1864 until his death he resided in Media, Delaware county, Pa., and was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church in that borough. He rendered valuable aid to his brethren in the pastorate; to the church to which he sustained the relation of the faithful and devoted leader of the Sunday morning's class, and to the community as necessity required. By preachers and people he was not only highly respected, but greatly beloved. "He was a good man, full of faith and the Holy Ghost." His life was pure, faith strong, and prayers fervent and powerful.

The great cardinal doctrines of the Gospel were his stay and support. His faith in them was implicit, and his soul was inspired with the hope of eternal life. He said, "The name of Jesus fills my soul with joy!" He was for years "only waiting for the call of his Heavenly Father to come up higher."

On Saturday night he retired to bed as well as he had been for some time, and on Sabbath morning, soon after sunrise, "the weary wheels of life stood still," and the ransomed soul departed to spend the Sabbath in the vast Temple of God, and join in the worship with angels and redeemed spirits where the infirmities of age are unknown.

Joseph Carlile was twice married, his second wife being the widow of Rev. Levi Storks of the Philadelphia Conference. She preceded him to the heavenly world more than twenty years. Two daughters survive him, Josephine and Annie Carlile, both useful members of the Church, having a good hope of reunion with the departed in the immortal life.

REV. S. M. COOPER.

This year's necrology in the Philadelphia Conference is unprecedented. Nine honored members have obtained discharge from the ranks—

"Or worn by slowly rolling years ;
Or broke by sickness in a day,"—

and the ninth, promoted from toil, trial and suffering, to the rest and reward of eternal life, was our venerable brother, the Rev. Solomon M. Cooper.

He was born in Easton, Md., September 30, 1818. Fifty-two years ago his itinerant career began, and was finished January 15, 1896, at the seaside home of his daughter, Mrs. Mary D. Clogg, in Asbury Park, N. J.

The term of his effective service in the Conference extended to twenty-eight years, during which he filled the following appointments: 1844, Salisbury, Md.; 1845, Princess Anne; 1846, Georgetown, Del.; 1847, Laurel, Del.; March 9, 1848, he was married to Miss S. E. Dixon, of Church Creek, Md.; and during the sixteen years ensuing, we find his name connected with the following charges: Snow Hill, Denton, Church Hill and Sudlersville, Md.; Frederica and Smyrna Circuit, Del.; Kent and North East, Md.; Strasburg, Pa.; and Millington and Princess Anne, Md.

In 1865 he was appointed Presiding Elder of Snow Hill District, but in less than two years his health broke down. Removing to the city of Philadelphia, after a period of rest, he became Superintendent of City Missions and remained in this active and useful sphere until he established several Sunday-schools and preaching places, which afterwards became self-sustaining and important churches. One of these, it may be mentioned to his credit for industry and zeal, was in the locality now occupied by the new Union Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the annual Conference is being entertained, and where this memorial notice is to be presented and read.

Brother Cooper possessed powers of mind of an unusual order. He was a deep and careful thinker, a close reasoner and an expert in any argumentative arena. He always exhibited a lively interest in the discussions of the Preacher's meeting, when able, during his later years to be present. He is also remembered as a very interesting preacher, successful at camp-meetings and in revival work, and faithful as a pastor. Few excelled him as a student of Methodist doctrine and polity, and self-possession was one of the remarkable traits of his character.

The closing years of his checkered life were marked by intense suffering. His faith and endurance were tried as by fire. A slow and relentless disease—cancer—developed from day to day and month after month in its deadly course, until at last, much as he delighted in the songs of the church, it became impossible for him to endure the singing of a hymn.