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XIX.—Memoirs

PHILIP CLINE



Philip Cline was born in Philadelphia, Pa., July 11, 1821. His parents were devoted members of the Baptist Church. In early childhood he was bereft of his mother. Her death deeply affected him, but his diffident, retiring nature shrank from the task of unbosoming his convictions and often, in after years, he was known to remark that any kind friend perceiving his distress of soul might then have led him to Jesus. In October, 1841, he came under deep conviction and asked the Lord to pardon his sins. At a protracted meeting held in the Cohocksink M. E. Church, Rev. J. A. Roche of the Philadelphia Conference, pastor, he went forward to the altar and was saved. Great joy was

his and he shouted the praises of God in the regular, orthodox fashion.

The gifts and graces of Bro. Cline were early recognized. He was licensed to exhort September 1, 1842, and in April, 1844, to preach and supplied Bristol, Pa., seven months under the distinguished Dr. John P. Durbin. Admitted into the New Jersey Conference in 1850 he served the following appointments: Bargaintown Circuit; Medford Circuit, Union, Camden; Commerce Street Church, Bridgeton; Front Street Church, Trenton; Pitman, New Brunswick; Red Bank, First Church, Millville; Hightstown, First Church, Salem; Pemberton, Mt. Holly, Gloucester City, Woodstown, Keyport, First Church, Atlantic City; North Long Branch, Haddonfield, Hammonton, Blackwood. At the session of the Conference held in Trenton, March, 1897, he was, at his own request, granted a supernumerary relation and removed to Wenonah where on February 10, 1898, he passed from labor into rest. Thus for nearly a half century in the blessed work of soul-winning, lived this unostentatious, thoughtful Christian worker. His ministry was signally honored and owned of his Master and characterized by revivals of great power, aggregating more than 2,000 precious souls converted to God.

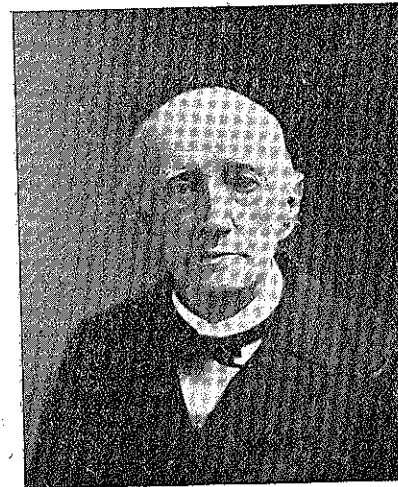
Bro. Cline was beyond the average man, of sound physique, upright character, not a policy monger nor a time-server, of virile and independent thought, of sound reason and manly judgment, tender heart, commanding the respect of his brethren and winning the love of the

churches. He was wise, careful, judicious and patient in his administrations—kind and helpful as a pastor. He excelled in his knowledge of the Scriptures, of which he was a diligent and thorough student. His sermons were clear in their conception, orderly in arrangement, lucid in statement, convincing in argument. Bro. Cline was a strong preacher, a good man, full of the Holy Ghost and of faith. He believed in Holiness, and without pretensions, in meekness and humility, lived it.

Vigor and strength seemed his to the last, not expecting, yet always ready for the hour of his departure. On the Sabbath evening preceding his death he preached for the writer a sermon of unusual strength and impressiveness—a beautiful and worthy conclusion of the grand work of his life. On Thursday morning he conducted family worship with marked tenderness and sweetness. After breakfast he complained of being ill. Lying down for a moment to rest, he knew not, but it was the Divine summons—the presence of the invisible chariot of God,—and without a sigh or a word he stepped in and was borne to his palace home.

WRIGHT ECKERSLEY.

ROBERT S. HARRIS



Robert S. Harris was born of Methodist parentage in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1816, in which city he remained till he reached manhood. A designer by profession in 1841 he accepted employment in Newark, New Jersey. At this time Rev. A. E. Ballard engaged in a meeting established by Rev. Henry M. Brown and himself about five miles from Newark. Seeking help they found Bro. Harris, who gladly gave himself for five years' work, which was blessed in the salvation of many souls. He was recommended to and received by the New Jersey Annual Conference in 1846, and appointed Junior Preacher on Madison Circuit, a spot destined to be historic in Methodism as the

location of Drew Theological Seminary. The next year he was stationed at Rockaway, a station by itself where for another year he labored with success. His next appointment was Newark Circuit, than which there was no harder work in the entire Conference, which then took in all New Jersey with parts of New York and Pennsylvania. Laboring together in exhorter work—Brown, Ballard and Harris were all given similar positions with similar experiences in the same city. After two years of this work, he was sent to Sandyston Circuit, a charge which involved more hard labor. While at this charge he was united in marriage to the lady who abides his departure. Here he labored amid great privation, but with many happy hours and witnessing many conversions.

His next appointment was Mendham, where he made a good record for the prosperity of the church. At the end of this term he was appointed to New Vernon, a place where the rougher people were generally adverse