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MINUTES

OF THE

Wyoming Annual Conference

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church,

NINETEENTH SESSION,

HELD AT

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BISHOP JANES, PRESIDENT.

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home." With a smile, he replied: "Yes, almost home." Then lifting his hands, while a heavenly light seemed to flash from his eyes, he exclaimed: "Glory! glory! glory! be to God." In this triumphant manner he passed from earth to the "palace of angels and of God." On the Sabbath following his death, his funeral was attended in the M. E. Church, in Courtland, in the presence of a vast congregation, while the Pastor, Rev. J. T. Crippen, preached from this Scripture, by request of Bro. W., made some two months before his decease: "I have fought a good fight."

May the benedictions of Heaven rest richly upon the beraved family.

And may we triumph so,
When all our warfare's past.

STEPHEN T. CRAMP.

When one so pure and so gifted as he whose name stands at the head of this article passes away from earth, it should be especially recognized, not only that we may credit the well-doer, but that the example may be made the more conspicuous and impressive for the benefit of others.

Rev. S. T. Cramp, one of the members of this body, was born in Sandhurst, Kent county, England, May, 21, 1842; hence, when he died, Wednesday, January 19th, he was 27 years and 8 months old.

He was converted to God in April, 1859, and immediately became a member of the Methodist Church, and the following December preached his first sermon from Rom. 1: 7. From that time until he was no longer able to speak aloud, he was constantly employed in the work of the ministry, either in England, or in this, to him, a land of strangers. He came to this country in July, 1864, and has served the following charges in this Conference with great acceptability and success: Beach Pond, Oregon, Lackawaxen and Cherry Ridge.

At the last session of our Conference, in Honesdale, he was appointed by Bishop Ames, in connection with the Executive Committee of the Wayne Co. Bible Society, the agent of this Society. He continued in this work about six months, and though unable at any time to speak above a whisper, he labored faithfully as long as he could. In November last, he was obliged to cease travelling on account of failing health. At first he thought he would soon be better, but he gradually came to feel that his work was done. He had a desire to live for the sake of his companion, and that he might labor in the cause of Christ, but he was perfectly resigned to the will of God. He said, all through his sickness, his mind was at rest, and that he enjoyed constant and perfect peace.

The evening he died he several times shouted, "Glory," and his last words, spoken about thirty minutes before his death, were: "There are angels hovering round." Thus has passed away triumphantly, a pure-hearted, strong-minded, sincere, humble, faithful and successful Minister of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Brother Cramp was naturally endowed with a strong mind, and far more

than ordinary ability as a thinker, writer and speaker. At times his sermons were perfectly astonishing. Had he lived to labor and develop, he undoubtedly would have taken a high position, and exerted a great influence in the Conference. But he was not satisfied with natural gifts; to these he added studious habits. His early advantages were limited, but, by industry and application to books, mostly after he entered the ministry, he acquired a good education. He, however, regarded his education as only just commenced. He had large plans for the future with reference to reading and study, and the improvement of his mind. But he knew very well that natural gifts, even when improved by study, would not enable him to lead sinners to Jesus, without something higher and diviner; hence he added to these an earnest piety. His heart burned with a desire to honor Christ. His fervent piety baptized and spiritualized all his other characteristics, and gave him power and influence with the people.

He was very laborious. He preached in all more than 1,500 sermons. He was diligent in his pastoral duties; he was also a Sabbath school worker. He was an efficient laborer in Scriptural meetings; always ready to do his duty on such occasions.

Brother Cramp was kind and obliging, and, as a consequence, he was greatly beloved by his brethren in the ministry. He was successful—successful in securing the favor of God, in gaining the hearts and confidence of the people, in building up Christians in the faith of the Gospel, in reclaiming wanderers, and in leading sinners to Jesus. He has been favored with some extensive revivals, and upon every charge where he has labored there have been conversions. These will shine as stars in the crown of his rejoicing. "They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as stars forever and forever."

"Servant of God, well done,
Thy glorious warfare's past
The battle's fought, the race is won,
And thou art crowned at last."