

which he had travelled the year before. At the close of this year he married, located, and engaged in the farming business. After some lapse of time he removed to the Oneida country, and joined that conference, and travelled there three years. At the close of this time he emigrated to the state of Illinois, and joined the conference at its session in Rushville, and received an appointment. He then travelled several years, part of the time in much affliction; and some few years since he superannuated, and continued in this relation until he died.

A member of the conference says, "I visited him a number of times during his last illness, and always found him strong in faith, giving glory to God. The last sermon he preached was on the occasion of the funeral of my wife. It was an excellent discourse, and seemed to find way to the hearts of the people. This was but a few weeks before his death. At one time I said to him, 'Brother Corey, have you your FRIEND with you now?' Tears of holy joy flowed down his cheeks. He said, 'My feelings are indescribable. The Lord is my friend; he sustains me now!' A short time before he breathed his last he desired to be raised up in the bed, and, addressing himself to an unconverted friend, said, 'There is a divine reality in religion. I am a dying man, and will not lie!' He pressed his friend, with all his remaining strength, to fly to the Lord Jesus, and prepare for death. It made a deep impression. A few minutes before he died, he shouted, 'O glory to God!' and soon fell asleep in the arms of Jesus." This was on the 23d of August, 1844.

17. JOSEPH EDMONSON was born May, 1798, in the state of Virginia, of Quaker parents. He was related to a Quaker writer of his name in England. He delivered his first exhortation at a camp-meeting in Missouri. The meeting was held by our late beloved brother S. H. Thompson, who said this exhortation was such a stream of holy eloquence as he scarcely ever heard poured forth. He entered the travelling connection in Missouri in 1823, and continued in that conference several years. He was presiding elder there one year, and was once a delegate to the General Conference. He located in Missouri, but removed to Illinois, and was readmitted into the travelling connection, and received into the Illinois annual conference, about seven years ago; and laboured with great acceptability in the Springfield station, on the Lebanon, Edwardsville, and Waterloo circuits, and Bellville station. He was returned to some of these fields of labour several times; and as he laboured with great faithfulness and ability, he was always welcomed by the people. He also received appointments to some other fields of gospel labour. At the last session of our conference he was appointed to Edwardsville circuit, on which he continued to labour until a few days before his death.

Brother Edmonson lived in the enjoyment of the great blessing of sanctification. He said to a member of this conference, who visited him on the Tuesday before his death, "My soul is stayed on God." At that time he was almost insensible. I saw him afterward, and he told me to tell the conference that he could not preach the funeral sermons of brothers Otwell, Benson, and others deceased, that were expected of him. When he received the appointment, at the last session of the conference, to preach the funeral sermons of all the members of the conference that might die in the work during the year, he remarked to me, that possibly it might be ominous of his own approaching dissolution.

He was a good citizen, and an honest, industrious man. As a friend he was constant and faithful. His affection for his family was remarkably strong; and no man made greater sacrifices of feeling in this respect in carrying out the convictions of his duty to itinerate. Brother Edmonson's piety was ardent, uniform, and constant. "He was a good man, and full of faith and the Holy Ghost." But brother E. was not only a good man, he was also a great man. He possessed a mind of the highest order. And it is rare indeed that so powerful an intellect is accompanied by feelings so strong, a fancy so delicate, and an imagination so exuberant and yet so chaste. His preaching was systematic and argumentative. It was rich and sublime in imagery; strong, clear, chaste, and beautiful in language; and eloquent, forcibly eloquent, in delivery. His matter was scriptural, and was breathed out under the mighty influence of the living Spirit of God. He was of course very useful.

Brother Edmonson was extremely diffident and unobtrusive; retiring and simple in his manners; and very sociable, frank, and cheerful in his intercourse with his fellow-men. Those who knew him best, loved him most. Yes, he lives in the hearts of his brethren of the Illinois conference, and will not soon be forgotten. He died on Sunday,

September 1st, 1844. Beloved, amiable, excellent Edmonson, farewell! after a short separation soon shall we again meet thee in heaven, in the bosom of thy Father and thy God. Amen.

OHIO CONFERENCE.

18. JOHN W. KANAGA, our beloved brother, and fellow-labourer in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, departed this life in the town of Lynchburgh, Highland county, Ohio, on the 14th day of February, 1844, in the twenty-sixth year of his age. He was the son of Christopher and Susan Kanaga, pious and worthy members of the M. E. Church. He was from a child taught to fear the Lord, and brought up in the strict observance of the duties of religion. These well-timed parental instructions were not lost on him:—in his eleventh year he was awakened to a sense of his fallen condition as a sinner, and the necessity of a change of heart. After a painful struggle he obtained the forgiveness of his sins, at a camp-meeting, near Urbana. He united with the church of which his parents were members, and in which he had been dedicated to God; and in which he continued a member until he was called to the church triumphant.

In the fall of 1840 he received a license to preach, and was immediately employed by the presiding elder of the district to fill a vacancy on Jamestown circuit. At the conference held in Urbana, in August, 1841, he was admitted on trial in the travelling connection, and appointed to the same circuit. At the next conference he was appointed to Franklinton circuit. At the conference in Chillicothe he was received into full connection, and ordained a deacon, and appointed to Clarksville circuit. Brother Kanaga commenced his labours on this, his last circuit, with more than usual buoyancy of spirit; and laboured faithfully until the second quarterly meeting, which was held at Lynchburg. During the meeting he suffered from slight fever, and pain in his head. He preached at the meeting an instructive, scriptural, feeling sermon, on 2 Tim. iv, 6-8. He preached, indeed, as though it were his last sermon, as it proved to be. His disease was winter fever, which soon assumed a malignant form, and baffled the skill of several good physicians. When he was told that his end was nigh, it gave him no alarm, death had no terrors for him—he was calm and collected, and his mind was kept in peace. There were moments of partial gloom, but they were soon succeeded by ecstatic joy. He was rational to the last; gave directions concerning his effects, chose the text for his funeral sermon, and the hymn to be sung on the occasion, and read it with a strong and full voice. He sang, and talked, and praised his Redeemer aloud. To write the many expressions of joy and triumph would occupy more space than is allotted us in this brief memoir. His funeral sermon was preached from Rev. xiv, 13, in the Methodist meeting-house in Urbana, to a large and weeping congregation; and his remains deposited in full view of the place of his birth.

GENESEE CONFERENCE.

19. SETH MATTISON; 20. NELSON HOAG.—No memoirs.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

21. JOHN A. DECKER was born in West Tennessee, May 19, 1808. When but a small boy his father emigrated to Indiana, and settled in Harrison county, where the subject of this memoir, at the age of eighteen, was brought to the knowledge of salvation, we believe through the instrumentality of Rev. Geo. Lock. In the fall of 1828 he received his first license to preach, and in 1829 he was admitted on trial in the Illinois annual conference. From this time he filled different appointments, first in Illinois, and subsequently in Indiana conference, with general acceptability, and some usefulness, up to 1834, when the conference held at New-Albany granted him a location at his own request. During his location he resided some time in Rome, and afterward near Petersburg, in both of which places his standing was elevated for piety and usefulness.

In 1840 brother Decker was readmitted into the Indiana conference, and appointed to Boonville circuit, where he laboured, suffered, and will long live in the affections of many of his charge. In 1841 he was unable to take any appointment. In 1842 he was appointed to Brunville circuit, where he travelled until some time in July, when he suffered an attack of hemorrhage from the lungs. From this time he declined rapidly; and on the 25th of October, 1843, after commending his wife and children to