

OFFICIAL JOURNAL AND YEAR BOOK

OF THE

*Philadelphia Annual Conference*

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Session*

HELD IN THE

FIRST METHODIST  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LANCASTER, PA.

MARCH 26 to APRIL 1, 1924

---

EDITED BY THE SECRETARY AND HIS ASSISTANTS

---

PHILADELPHIA:

METHODIST EPISCOPAL BOOK ROOM

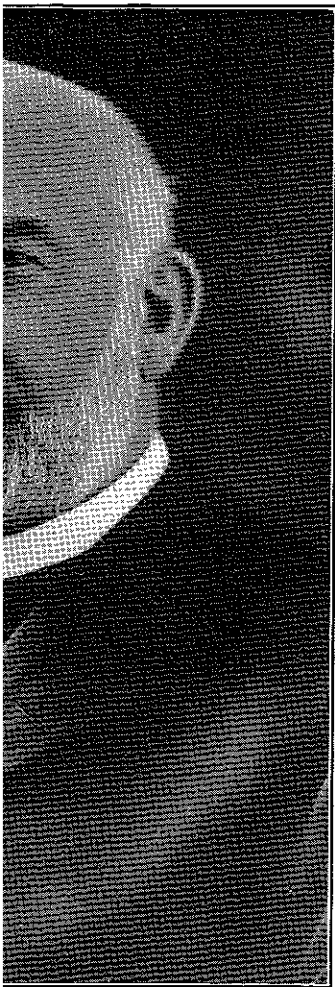
1707-1709 Arch Street

E. A. YEAKEL, AGENT

Price, 50 cents

::

Postage extra

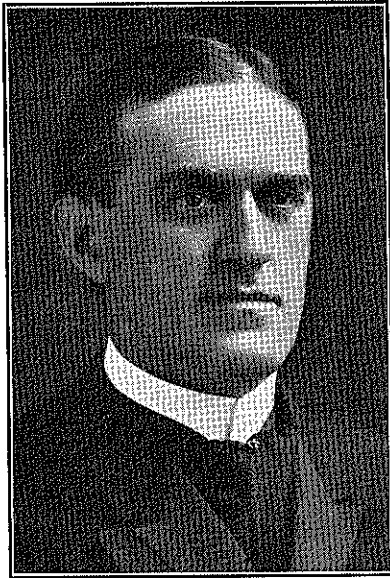


BERRY

## REV. IRVIN T. EDWARDS

The Rev. Irvin T. Edwards was born at Coniston, in the lake district of England, near where John Ruskin lived, and often as a lad lifted his hat to the great man as he passed by on the village street. Early in his youth his parents moved to Bangor, Pennsylvania, where one morning from the depths of a slate quarry he caught a vision of God and heard the call of Christ to become a faithful minister of the Lord. He received his preparatory education at Pennington Seminary, from which institution he graduated as valedictorian of his class. He was a splendid Greek scholar. He also excelled as a writer, debator and orator.

After graduating from Dickinson College in 1903 he entered the "Big Brotherhood" of the Christian ministry of the Philadelphia Conference and for twenty-one years gave full proof as a good minister of Jesus Christ, serving with much acceptability Ambler, Norwood, McConnell



Memorial, Swarthmore, Cookman, Columbia, Honeybrook, Lykens, Tacony, Spring City, and St. Clair. Brother Edwards had a lofty conception of the Christian ministry. His preaching was of a high order and always attracted the thoughtful of the community.

A brief account taken from the District Superintendent's report of his work in his first charge, Ambler, gives us the trend of his entire, only too brief, ministry. 1903, improvements, \$325. 1904, conversions, 35. Probationers, 32. Sunday School attendance increased 50 per cent. New organ, church carpeted. Improvements, \$975. 1905, conversions, 25; probationers, 25. Improvements, \$200. Old debt, \$475. His work in his last charge, St. Clair, was monumental. Many will rise in the land of eternal day to call him blessed.

Brother Edwards was faithful in death. He knew he was going into the shadows, but like the sweet singer of Israel he was enabled to say, "Though He lead me through the valley and the shadow of death I will fear no evil." He had the consciousness that Christ was with him. For him there was no sting in death, no victory in the grave. In death he was the victor.

The funeral service was held in Philadelphia on Saturday afternoon, March 15. A large gathering of fellow pastors and former parishioners were present. Dr. George W. Henson was in charge. The opening prayer was made by Dr. John G. Wilson. Words of appreciation were delivered by Dr. John Bieri, whose friendship dated back to Pennington days and by Bishop Berry, under whom he had labored faithfully and successfully for twelve years. Others who took part in the services were Dr. G. Bickley Burns, the Rev. Frank A. Manlove, and Dr. Milton H. Nichols. Resolutions of sympathy from the Preachers' Meeting were read by Dr. Richard Radcliffe. Interment was made in Arlington Cemetery.

Out of the pain of night-watching removed  
 Into the sleep that God gives His beloved,  
 Into the dawn of a glad resurrection,  
 Into the house of unbroken affection,  
 Into the joy of our Lord—thence confessing  
 Death in disguise is His angel of blessing.

Prepared by JOHN BIERI.