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OFFICIAL JOURNAL AND MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION

OF THE

GENESEE CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD AT

LIMA, LIVINGSTON COUNTY, NEW YORK,

IN THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

OCTOBER 1-7, 1885.

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mon schools and for a time the Geneva High-school until he became a thorough English scholar. Beginning at seventeen he was for many years engaged in teaching, and always successfully. Among his later schools were those in Hammondsport and in Avoca.

He was converted at the age of nineteen during a series of meetings held in Penn Yan Methodist Episcopal church, the agency that first moved him being the exhortation of Brother Barker (so long connected with Troy Praying Band). Within three months after he went with a band to work in Italy Hollow, where a glorious revival resulted. At this and a subsequent visit about forty were gathered in.

July 29, 1863, he was married to Miss Carrie H. Laman, second daughter of the Rev. A. G. Laman, by the Rev. N. A. De Pew, at that time pastor in Victor, N. Y. In 1873 he was employed by the Rev. A. F. Morey, Presiding Elder of Bath District, as a supply for Wayland. He was blessed with a powerful revival and greatly advanced the Church in all its interests, but would not consent to be recommended to Conference until the expiration of his third year.

In 1876 he was received on trial and appointed to Jasper, and reappointed in 1877. In 1878 he was sent to Clinton-Street Church in Lockport, and in 1879 he was admitted into full connection, being a Deacon, and was returned to Lockport. In 1880 he was made a General Tract Agent for the Conference, continuing his residence in Lockport. In 1881 he was appointed to Allegany; in 1882 and 1883 to Sardinia and Protection. At the Conference of 1883 he was elected and ordained an Elder.

Immediately after the death of his father-in-law, Dr. Laman, March 23, 1884, he went to Washington, D. C., where he soon after purchased and moved on to land formerly granted by Congress to the Polish patriot, Kosciusko. At the following session of his Conference he was granted a supernumerary relation, and applied himself to so arrange his business affairs that he might soon be in a condition to take up any work to which his Master and the Church might call him.

February 3 last, he was prostrated by typhoid pneumonia. He died February 10, 1885, leaving his wife heartbroken by the sudden blow.

John R. Cathin was a man of marked characteristics. He was intense—intense in his zeal for God and the salvation of men, in his friendships, in his energy, and in his love for truth. Direct, veracious, transparent, earnest—he had the love of all good men and the respect of all bad ones.

REV. ISAAC EVERITT.

It is with feelings of sadness that we chronicle the death of Rev. Isaac Everitt. He was born at Norwich, Chenango Co., N. Y., February 5, 1823, and died at Westfield, Pa., September 21, 1885, aged 62 years. He was the youngest but two of a family of eight children, one-half of whom have now crossed the river.

At the age of twenty-seven years, he was married to Miss Amanda Wilson, of East Troupsburg, and for thirty-five years they have journeyed together over life's uneven pathway.

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He was converted to God under the faithful labors of Rev. David Wing, in a revival at East Troupsburg, in 1841. He was licensed to exhort in 1844. It being evident that he possessed sterling qualities as a speaker, he was voted his first license to preach in 1846, and, wherever circumstances permitted, sought to improve the commission he had received. In the spring of 1857, the Presiding Elder being in need of a supply at Hammondsport, N. Y., sent him to fill a vacancy, and so creditably were his services rendered that he was recommended to join the East Genesee Conference, which convened at Canandaigua, N. Y., and was ordained Deacon at the hands of Bishop Beverly Waugh, August 16, 1857. Five years afterward, in the city of Rochester, N. Y., he was ordained Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church, by Bishop Levi Scott, and for more than a quarter of a century Bro. Isaac Everitt has stood faithfully at his post diligently performing his allotted task.

He was a comparative stranger in the northern part of our Conference, having spent his entire ministry in southern New York and northern Pennsylvania; but all who knew him, very soon learned to love him. After his ordination as Deacon, in 1857, he was sent to Caton; in 1859, to Thurston; 1861, to Whitesville; 1863, to Canisteo; 1865, supernumerary; 1866, to Whitesville; 1868, to Knoxville; 1871, to Mainsburg; 1873, to Westfield; 1876, to Burlington; 1878, to Lindley; 1879, to North Cohocton; 1882, to Hammondsport, and 1883, superannuated. Thus we observe that he commenced and completed his work at Hammondsport. We will not attempt to estimate the souls converted to God, either directly or indirectly, through his labors, and though the records of earth do not contain them, the recording angel has marked each one, and many will be the stars in the crown of his rejoicing.

During the last year of his stay at North Cohocton, his health, which heretofore had been so robust, began to fail him, and had he taken the needed rest, it might have added to the years of his life; but feeling some solicitude not to be laid aside, he took work at Hammondsport, which taxed his strength beyond all powers of endurance, but not until the next session of the Conference did he request a superannuated relation. During the extreme feebleness which followed, it was not thought expedient for him to leave Hammondsport, and so he remained until spring, when he returned to Westfield, Pa. During the summer a comfortable house was built for him, which he enjoyed but one brief year. He has now one far more commodious, "not built with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Often during the last few months of his illness, when asked about his health, he would say: "I am quite well myself, but the house I live in is quite feeble." Once when we called upon him, we remarked: "I see you are still in the land of the living." "Well," said Bro. Everitt, "I must answer you as one of my parishioners did Judge Huntington, who called to see him: 'Judge, not quite yet, but almost there. I am now in the land of the dying.'" A little later we questioned him regarding his prospects for the future, and he thoughtfully remarked: "I can see no reason why the God whom I have loved and worked for so earnestly, and who has cared for me thus far so tenderly, should desert me in such an hour as this." At another time, when visited by one of the brethren and asked what word he would like to send to his brethren in Conference, he replied: "Tell them I am

all packed up, waiting for my next appointment, and probably shall receive it before they receive theirs;" and we all agreed it was the best one he ever received. He talked but little during his illness, because of difficulty in breathing; saying he was quite content to listen while others did the talking.

His death was sudden and unexpected to all, and yet we had good reason to know that the end could not be far distant.

His funeral services were held in Westfield, and conducted by the pastor, several of his brethren in the ministry assisting, and his remains were taken to East Troupsburg for interment.

Thus has passed from our Conference one highly respected and dearly beloved by all who knew him, and, while we sit in silence and mourn his loss, yet the fond expectation remains of a happy family reunion in the dim but not distant future. In the language of our sainted Bishop Gilbert Haven, we say: "Good night; when we meet again we will say, Good morning."

MRS. J. O. WILSEA.

Mrs. J. O. Wilsea died at Bergen, N. Y., November 23, 1884, aged fifty-six years.

Life with her began in sunshine as the daughter of an honored minister of the Genesee Conference, the late Chester V. Adgate. She was called, however, very early to an acquaintance with life's sorrows, for at seven years of age she was left fatherless.

She now became the adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, of Parma, who nobly and freely provided for her every facility to become mentally and spiritually a blessing to herself and to others, and an ornament in the Church of God. She was twice married, and both times she was the choice of a minister. Her first husband was a Presbyterian clergyman—the Rev. J. C. Knapp. After five years of blessed union, the Master called his servant home, and she passed through all the sadness of a widow's life, left alone with one child.

Five years later she was married to the Rev. J. O. Wilsea, a member of this Conference, and for twenty-four years the Master permitted them to work together.

Her religious experience began in Lima. While she was yet in the beauty of early womanhood (attending the Seminary here) she yielded to the demands of her Savior, and became a true disciple. She was endowed with many qualities, which, sanctified by the Spirit, made her indeed a helpmeet in the itinerancy. She had quick perception; while others would be struggling to conclusions, she would intuitively reach them. She had not only a mind to grasp truth, but a soul that delighted in it. She was timid by nature, but when necessity demanded, grace made her bold as a lion. To her, inactivity was death. It was a constant joy to render service, and the Church called her to the positions of class-leader and Sunday-school teacher. For eleven years, her husband being Steward of the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, she found herself in a position which tested her sagacity and judgment. She fully met the responsibility.