

## Memoirs.

### ROBERT W. CRANE.

Robert W. Crane was born in Three Rivers District, Canada, March 24, 1816, and was brought by his parents to Greene, Trumbull Co., Ohio, when four years old. He was converted and commenced preaching when 21 years old. While working at his trade of carpenter and joiner, he filled the office of local preacher for 16 years. He joined the Erie Annual Conference in 1854, and was a member of the East Ohio Conference from its organization. In 1874 he took a supernumerary relation, but continued to preach even after he was superannuated, so that for 60 years of his life he gave his services to ministerial work, in which he took supreme delight. He was married to Submit Rice, Nov. 10, 1836, who died in her 46th year. In Dec., 1862, he married Amelia Borden, who survives him.

Of the life of Bro. Crane, it may be said: 1st, He served well his day and generation. 2nd, It was on the whole a well ordered and symmetrical life.

He did the work his day demanded. The pioneer days called for sturdy physical labor; he gave it. Houses were to be built and a wilderness subdued and in this work he took an active part, handling the ax, saw and hammer with skill. He was a very particular man, and methodical, insisting that small points should be right. He was scrupulous in business, in mental habits, and in religious life. He was a strong and influential speaker. Not a critic in Hebrew, nor trained in the school of higher criticism, yet he was a good thinker, knew what his age demanded and he gave it. He carried high ideals of life, and exerted a wholesome influence. He offered his life and gave what he could to save the Union. He responded to President Lincoln's first call for soldiers, and recruited a company in Ashtabula county which was mustered into service as Co. D, 19th O. V. I., of which he was captain. Physically disabled he returned to the home of his boyhood. To the last he tried to bear his part in human affairs, and make his life useful. He never fell out of the ranks till the march was over. He kept his integrity and he kept his faith.

### REV. JOHN WRIGHT.

The Rev. John Wright was born at Deersville, Harrison Co., Ohio, Nov. 27, 1825 and died Jan. 1st., 1901, at Chatsworth Park, California. He was converted at Deersville, Ohio, Jan. 8th., 1840, under the ministry of Rev. G. D. Kinnear. He was received on trial in the Pittsburgh Conference in June, 1850; was ordained Deacon by Bishop Simpson in 1852 and Elder by the same Bishop in 1854. He was married June 3rd, 1852, to Catherine Amanda Arter, of Hanoverton, Ohio.

He traveled over most of the counties of Southeastern Ohio, and was four years in Western Pennsylvania. About the year 1855, his labors were

crowned with a revival in Stark Co., Ohio, out of which came three prominent Methodist preachers; J. M. Carr and Louis Paine of the East Ohio Conference and Adna B. Leonard, Missionary Secretary.

He Superannuated 1881, and in that relation remained till the time of his death. He was a faithful servant of God. His faith in Christ was as steady as the needle to the pole. His fidelity to the church that honored him with a place in her ministry remained uniform to the close of his life. He was a noble man and a successful minister of the gospel of Christ.

### REV. G. W. GRAY, D. D.

G. W. Gray was born in Dorset, Vermont, May 17, 1832. His parents soon after moved to Chautauqua county, N. Y., where he was raised to manhood's years, receiving such educational advantages as were then afforded, but being mainly self-educated and self-made. However, being a young man of more than average ability, and resourceful in his efforts to prepare himself for life's work, he laid good and substantial foundations. He was thoroughly converted in this formative period, joined the church, and soon felt himself called to the work of the ministry, and began preparation to this end with great energy, as was characteristic of his nature. Having been licensed to preach in 1859, he was admitted on trial to the Erie Conference in 1860, and in full connection in 1862, at which time he was ordained deacon, and elder two years later. At the organization of the East Ohio Conference, in 1876, he became a member of that body, where he continued in effective service until 1896, when his health failed, and he retired to private life in Geneva, Ohio, where he spent the rest of his life until June 16, 1901, when he peacefully fell on sleep. He took rank early as one of the strongest men of his Conference, and maintained this position through life. He was possessed of a marked personality and a high degree of judicial mind. He was conscientious, self-reliant, independent, manly, with the special gift of being able to adapt himself to whatever conditions surrounded him, so that his life was, to a great degree, a smoothly-flowing current. He held to a high standard of moral purity, spirituality, Christian honor and integrity. His demeanor was that of a high-toned Christian gentleman, never degrading ministerial manhood by anything small or undignified. During his ministry he had experience in all phases of the work, and was successful everywhere. Up to the very last charge he served before his health finally failed him, this success continued. Doctor Gray was trusted by his Conference with all the honorable recognition in its gift. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Scio College, was a member of the General Conference of 1884, and wherever confidence was reposed in him he proved that it was not misplaced. He thus bore faithfully all the responsibilities committed to his charge, brought them back, and yielded them up untarnished, acquitted himself with honor, and has answered unto God.

### REV. B. F. FORSYTHE.

Benjamin Franklin Forsythe was born September 26, 1857, near Freeport, Ohio, and died June 22, 1901. He was clearly converted in early manhood, and became a member of the Presbyterian Church, Rev. Samuel Patterson, pastor. April 6, 1882, he transferred his membership to the Methodist Episcopal Church in Freeport, then under the pastoral charge of W. H. Dickerson. Though first inclined to the study of law, he soon felt

called to the ministry. He received his education chiefly at Franklin College, New Athens, O., graduating from that school in 1831. He was admitted on trial in September, 1883, in the Michigan Conference. In 1884 he was transferred to the East Ohio Conference, where he labored faithfully till his death.

December 28, 1882, he was united in marriage to Miss Jennie, daughter of William and Margaret Welch, of Tippecanoe, Harrison county, Ohio. One son, Frank, aged seven years, with the bereaved mother, remain to profit by his father's godly life. Two infant daughters preceded him to the heavenly land.

In March, 1901, though previously enfeebled for some months, he resigned his charge. Seeking restoration at Battle Creek, Mich., his hopes of recovery were disappointed, God having willed his promotion to heaven's larger rewards. Organic heart trouble hastened certainly the end which came soon after his return to his father-in-law's home near Tippecanoe.

During his ministry over two thousand persons were received into the church. He had some large revivals. He was very successful in winning the young people to Christ. He was a fine student of human nature, and successfully administered the affairs of his charges without friction or failure. He was an exemplary Christian of cheerful and uniform temperament, and most genial manners. He was a good preacher, and a very acceptable pastor. He had the confidence of all his people. He was worthily beloved by all his kindred and friends. He rests from his labors and his works follow him. He died happy, leaving a bright testimony of his acceptance with Christ.

#### ORVILLE NELSON HARTSHORN.

Rev. Orville Nelson Hartshorn, L. L. D. was born August 23, 1823, in Nelson, Portage Co., Ohio. His parents were of Puritan stock; his father from Connecticut, his mother from Massachusetts. His early years were spent on the farm where he developed physical powers of great strength and endurance. His mother was not only his childhood teacher, but his first teacher in the common school and also the Sabbath School. After receiving such education as the common schools afforded he attended for a time a select school at Deerfield. And three years in the Linnean Academy of Atwater. He then entered Allegheny College. In three years he was graduated from the Classical Course. All this he accomplished by his own efforts, meeting all expenses by labor and school teaching. In 1846 he opened Mt. Union Academy with six pupils. From this small beginning has grown Mt. Union College. His skill, patience and perseverance mark every step of its advancement for more than forty years. In 1867 Dr. Hartshorn visited Europe in the interest of education and to this visit we are indebted largely for the extensive Museum and much of the apparatus of the college. After forty-one years of toil, Dr. Hartshorn in 1887 resigned the Presidency of the college, but never ceased to cherish its interests till the end came. In 1849, he married Miss Amanda Melvina Brush who, with five children mourn their loss in his death, which occurred at his home in Alliance Sept. 17, 1901. He early gave himself to the service of God and became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1858 he entered the Pittsburgh Conference and at the formation of the East Ohio Conference in 1876, he became a member of this body. In 1860 the State and Union Law school of Cleveland conferred on him the title of Doctor of Laws. In 1868 he was chosen as one of the delegates to the General Conference meeting in Chicago. His christian life was characterized with untiring effort in behalf of others. He was constant in his friendship, ever ready to co-operate in

the promotion of every educational and religious movement. These later years of declining health and activity have endeared him to the community and city of Alliance and he has departed venerated by all who have known him. He has erected his own monument in Mt. Union college, and he will live in history as long as christian education is cherished.

#### MRS. BERTHA L. SALMON.

Mrs. Bertha L. Salmon was born September 29, 1873, in Deersville, Ohio. She was the daughter of Dr. William K. and Mina Smith, and was married to the Rev. S. B. Salmon, of the East Ohio Conference, September 11, 1895, at Toledo. Her conversion, which was a very clear one, occurred while she was attending college at Scio, in 1893, under the ministry of the Rev. J. S. Secrest. She then united with the Church on probation, and was received into full connection the same year at West Toledo. She faithfully performed her duties as a minister's wife for one year at Empire, two years at Second Church, East Liverpool, and, with her husband, had entered upon their third year at Smithfield. No year's work ever opened with brighter prospects to any minister than did this one to Brother Salmon and his wife. Her illness was brief, and before the great majority of her friends knew of her sickness she was gone. During the half-hour before her death she quoted lines from favorite hymns, talked of God's love to her, and of the Savior's presence with her; prayed for her friends, said, "All is well, all is well," and went to sleep. Her death was one of those for which we have no explanation. The world needs workers like she was. Young, beautiful, gifted, and good, her living and dying have been an inspiration to many. From her they have learned how to be Christians and have all the brightness of this world made brighter thereby. She died in the early morning of October 24, 1900. Her friends have comfort in hope.

#### MRS. N. C. WORTHINGTON.

Margaret Worthington, widow of the late Rev. N. C. Worthington, of the East Ohio Conference, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. R. T. Howell, at Bridgeport, O., October 26, 1900, in her seventy-ninth year. She was born in Middleton, Va. In early life she came to Eastern Ohio, where she became acquainted with Brother Worthington, to whom she was married in 1839, and with whom she enjoyed a happy wedded life of more than sixty years. Through an active ministry of nearly half a century she was a most amiable and efficient helpmeet, adding strength to the hands of her husband, and joy to his heart. She worthily gained the confidence and love of all to whom they ministered, and graced the home of the faithful minister with the rare beauty of her Christian life. Her queenly life was a center of light and comfort to all about her, and by her fruit a great company knew her to be a child of God. Few lives more perfectly fulfill the Bible picture of the virtuous woman than did the life of Sister Worthington. Diligence, devotion, kindness, tenderness, patience, humility, meekness, gentleness, self-sacrifice, characterized her life. With the peace and assurance of her long life she quietly fell asleep in Jesus. Her praise is upon many lips, and her children rise up to call her blessed.