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## MINUTES OF THE

FORTY-SIXTH SESSION

OF THE

# Indiana Annual Conference

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD IN THE

M. E. CHURCH AT WASHINGTON, IND.

September 12-17, 1877.

EDITED BY THE SECRETARIES.

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### MEMOIRS.

#### REV. HIRAM GILLMORE.

Rev. Hiram Gillmore, of the Indiana Conference, died at the residence of his son-inlaw, Captain Sands, in Tolono, Illinois, August 20. He was the son of William and Jerusha Gillmore; was born in Cataraugus county, New York, December 25, 1809; was converted at a camp-meeting near Jamestown, Ohio, August 20, 1823; joined the church and was soon licensed to exhort. He was licensed to preach July 11, 1831, and the same year joined the Pittsburg Conference and was appointed to the Ohio Circuit, Virginia. His appointments after this were: Canton Circuit; Cambria Mission; Ravenna; Painesville Circuit; Cleveland; Morgantown; Elizabeth Circuit; West Alexandria; Beaver Street, Alleghany; Liberty street, Pittsburg; presiding elder Steubenville District; Birmingham; and Beaver Street, Alleghany. In 1850 he was transferred to the Indiana Conference, and stationed at Wesley Chapel, New Albany; Madison; Lawrenceburg; Brookville; Columbus. He had, by division of the Conference, become a member of the Southeastern Indiana, and was transferred to the Indiana Conference, and stationed at Locust Street, Evansville, and Greencastle. In 1861 he was appointed chaplain of the Thirty-first Indiana regiment, where he remained for three years. It was during this time that his health broke down and he contracted the disease with which he died. He served some time as agent of the Christian Commission, and then as agent of the Bible Society. Afterward he was stationed at Bloomington, Cannelton, Monrovia, Sullivan and New Harmony. In 1874 he was placed on the superannuated list, after having labored for forty-four years as effective. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Roberts in 1833, and elder by Bishop Andrew in 1835. He was married to Eliza A. Ruter, daughter of Dr. Martin Ruter, in 1834. She still survives him, though in very feeble health. Our brother has left four children, all grown and married but one, Henry, who is a young lawyer of promise, and we trust the making of a man worthy of so noble a father. The two daughters are married, and living at Tolono, Illinois. W. F. Gillmore, the oldest son, is a worthy member of the Illinois Conference. He is now just mishing his second year at Kimber Church, Danville, Illinois, where he is highly esseemed and beloved. Much might be said of Brother Gillmore as a man and a preacher. He was a true, noble man, a warm-hearted, sincere friend, candid, honest and never false

As a preacher he ranked among the first. He had a logical mind, and he was studious in the cultivation of intellect and heart. In 1859 Indiana University conferred on him the degree of A. M. In whatever station he was placed he was faithful, true and loyal to the church. His army record is without a blot. He was a hard worker, not only as a preacher and pastor, but he served the church and the cause of Christ with his pen. He has left two published volumes, one on "The Evidences of Christianity," and the other on the "Philosophy of Baptism." He leaves several books in manuscript.

His last illness was long and protracted; he suffered extremely, and was conscious to the last. He bore up like a Christian hero, and died like a soldier. A week before his death he sent for me, and I took the first train and reached him about two o'clock in the morning. He was resting quietly when I arrived. On waking up he recognized me, but we let him rest until about seven in the morning, when he called for me, and told me that he wanted me to visit his conference and tell his brethren how he died. He then told me that he wanted me to preach his funeral sermon, and gave me the text: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." August twentieth he died. Raising his hands he exclaimed, "Oh bless the Lord," and sweetly fell asleep in Jesus. On Tuesday, the twenty-first, I preached his funeral sermon, in the Methodist church at Tolono, and after the services we took his remains to Danville, where they were received by the Sir Knights of "Athelstane Commandery," and interred with the honors of Knighthood, which was at his own request.

N. P. HEATH, G. W. WALKER, WM. C. SMITH.

#### REV. H. T. BURGE.

Rev. Hartwell T. Burge was born December 23, 1805, in the State of Virginia. He moved to Kentucky in the year 1819, and was married to Mary Jane Arthurs November 5, 1834. He professed religion and joined the church in the year 1838. Shortly after joining the church, he was licensed as a local preacher. After serving the church in this capacity for several years, in 1845 he entered the traveling connection in Louisville Conference M. E. Church, South, was ordained deacon by Bishop Andrew, and appointed to Scottville Circuit, after which he served as pastor of the following charges: Barren, Columbia, Hardinsburg, Hartford, Elizabethtown, Eddysville, Morgansfield and Greenville. While in charge of the last work the great rebellion broke out. Brother Burge was loyal in sentiment, and his impulsive nature would not permit him to remain "neutral." In the early stages of the war he entered the army as chaplain of one of the Kentucky Union regiments. After serving as chaplain for two years, he received a commission as colonel of a Kentucky regiment, serving two years, and took part in the battles of Stone River, Pittsburg Landing and several others. The greater part of the time he and his regiment were employed in suppressing the guerillas in Kentucky.

At the close of the war he remained for a time in Louisville, having nothing to do. The spirit of opposition engendered by the war in the minds of many Kentucky people against those who had taken part with the Union forces, rendered it impossible for Brother Burge to obtain a support by the ministry in Kentucky. Knowing this, he changed his relation from the Louisville Conference M. E. Church, South, to the Indiana Conference M. E. Church, in the year 1867, assembled at Indianapolis. After Brother Burge was received into this Conference he traveled the following charges: White Lick, Clarke's Prairie, Oakland City, Bloomington Circuit, and Decker's Station. At the Conference which met at Rockport, in 1876, he obtained a superannuated relation, and in January following he moved to Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana. He was then in feeble health, his robust constitution having given way under the burden of years and troubles, and in the latter part of June he took his bed and continued to grow worse day by day, until the second week in August, when reason forsook her throne. At times he fancied he was leading his regiment in the strife of battle; at other times he would be leading God's militant hosts, preaching, praying, singing and shouting over the victories of the cross.