

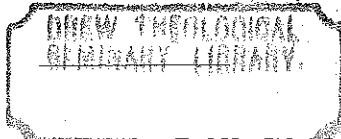
JOURNAL

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METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.



FORTY-NINTH SESSION AT CHARLOTTE, N. C.,

November 25th to December 2d, 1885.

BISHOP JOHN C. KEENER,.....PRESIDENT.  
DONALD W. BAIN, ..... SECRETARY.

Edited by DONALD W. BAIN.

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uncle of Rev. Dr. N. F. Reid. He was their loved and trusted friend. When Dr. Reid died, he wrote his biography and did it well.

In the community in which he lived for years every body had the utmost confidence in him and loved him devotedly. He had a bright, cheerful and deep piety that charmed and attracted both old and young. His was a full rounded character and one ripe for Heaven. He died at home in Thomasville, of paralysis, May 23, 1885. He has gone from labor to rest.

R. T. N. STEPHENSON read the following memoir of  
ROBERT P. BIBB:

MEMOIR OF ROBERT P. BIBB.

Rev. Robert P. Bibb was born and brought up in Nelson county, Virginia. His family was highly respected and pious.

His educational advantages were such as to develop and train his mind and cultivate his taste. He professed faith in Christ in early life, and his life and piety were consistent. Having united with the Methodist Church, he soon gave evidence that he was chosen of God for usefulness in the Church. He entered on trial in the Virginia Conference in 1836, and was sent as helper on Bedford circuit. The next year he was stationed in the town of Washington. Then on Tarboro circuit, next on Orange. He continued to labor with acceptability and usefulness on many fields of labor, until he became so enfeebled, that, in 1875, he asked to be placed in a superannuated relation.

He returned to his home at Trinity College, but did not lose his love of the gospel, but labored with the brethren on charges near him with his usual zeal and with a good degree of success.

He preached his last sermon at Prospect Church, Randolph circuit, July, 1884. From that time he gradually gave way until the 29th of June, 1885, he fell asleep in Jesus. On approaching the river he spoke as if it would afford him pleasure to pass over and be with the brethren who had gone before. Robert P. Bibb was a good preacher. He was conversant with many poetical works, and especially with Methodist Hymnology. His preaching was magnetic. People were delighted to hear him.

J. R. GRIFFITH read the following memoir of HENRY  
GRAY:

MEMOIR OF HENRY GRAY.

Rev. Henry Gray was born in Williamston, Martin county, N. C., March 23d, 1800, and died at his home near Orange Factory, Durham Co., N. C., Saturday, March 18th, 1885, and his remains now rest in the cemetery at

Mt. Bethel church, Durham circuit. Bro. Gray was converted at his home August 5th, 1832, and soon after connected himself with the Church, and was licensed to preach by Rev. Joseph Carson. He was a successful local preacher for six years. In 1838 he joined the North Carolina Conference, and was sent to the Neuse circuit, where he had over two hundred converts, and this was the beginning of Methodism in that section of Craven county. In 1841 and 1842 Bro. Gray traveled Sampson circuit, and during the two years reported one thousand conversions. In 1845 and 1846 he was on Trent circuit from which he reported gracious times, over one thousand converts. The next five or six years he did only occasional work, being in poor health. In 1850 he was sent to Columbia circuit and reported over two hundred conversions. In 1851 and 1852 he traveled Mattamuskeet circuit from which he reported eight hundred conversions. In 1853 and 1854 he was sent to Roanoke circuit. In 1855 he was stationed at the Mission church, Raleigh, N. C., now Person street, from which he reports one hundred converts. In 1856 he was sent to Granville circuit. In 1857 and 1858 he was on Hillsboro and Uwharrie circuits, from which he reported two hundred converts. In 1859 his health failed so completely that he took a superannuated relation and remained in that relation until his death. In looking over Bro. Gray's work, we find that his success in winning souls to Christ was truly wonderful. During twenty years of active work he reports nearly five thousand conversions. A great man once said he is the greatest preacher, who brings most souls to Christ, and judging Father Gray by this standard we pronounce him a much grander man than the world has given him credit for. The greatness of his work will be seen, when the souls converted through his agency begin to shine as stars in his crown. They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever. Father Gray did a vast deal of good work after his superannuation, but it will take too much space to follow him through all of his devious paths of preaching, exhorting, singing, praying in season and out, until his strength was literally worn out in the service of the Lord. Thus full of years, abundant in labors, and mighty in faith this veteran of the cross has passed triumphantly to his reward. Sweet in spirit and gentle in manners he scattered benedictions all along the pathway of life and leaves to the world the rich legacy of a consistent and shining christian life.

T. S. CAMPBELL read the following memoir of JOHN W. FLOYD:

MEMOIR OF JOHN W. FLOYD.

Rev. John W. Floyd was born in Granville county, N. C., January 8th, 1822, and died in Boone, N. C., July 3d, 1885. His early life was subject