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MINUTES

OF THE

EAST OHIO CONFERENCE

OF THE

Methodist Apiscopal Church,

-HELD AT-

CLEVELAND, OHIO, SEPT. 12 to 18, 1877.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE:

JAMES R. MILLS, R. F. KEELER, I. A. PEARCE,

AKRON, OHIO:

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whole amount required at \$6,000, and with n the easy reach of the Districts to raise the d of Stewards.

n all the brethren a strict adherence to the eporting all the sources of income of each ailure thus to report shall be a sufficient he funds of the necessitous collection.

he fact that it is possible greatly to facilirds, and thus allow them a little time for at of the Conference, we urge upon all the necessitous collections, and the Stewards' nference session. In behalf of the Board

> WILLIAM H. LOCKE, President, CHAS. N. ALLEN, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, The Sunday-school is a form of Church effort which implies that the closest possible connection should exist between the Church and School; and,

WHEREAS, It is apparent that in too many instances the Sunday-school is isolated from the Church; and that this isolation tends to prevent the organization and working of our Sunday-schools in accordance with the plan and purpose of the Discipline; therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That we deem it of the utmost importance that the children of the Sunday-school be brought into the public worship of the Church, and we urge upon the pastors and superintendents the importance of making every reasonable effort in order to secure this end.

Resolved, 2nd. That we have implicit confidence in the publishers and directors of our Sunday-school literature, and that for variety and compass we believe it is not surpassed, if equaled, by the publications of any other Society; and since these publications are in sympathy with the doctrines and usages of the M. E. Church, we recommend our Sunday-schools to use them.

Resolved, 3rd. That we recommend the appointment of a committee of three to prepare a constitution for a Conference Sunday-school Society, auxiliary to our Sunday-school Union, and report the same at the next Conference.

Resolved, 4th. That we recommend that each Presiding Elder's district be divided into sub-districts for Sunday-school purposes, and that at least one Sunday-school Institute be held each year in each sub-district.

Respectfully submitted.

D. C. OSBORNE, Chairman. A. T. COPELAND, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMOIRS.

REV. SAMUEL GREGG.

"Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."—Psalms 37:37.

The plan of redemption, like its great author, is perfect; and if perfectly

applied, will produce, as a result, a perfect christian character.

This we think was beautifully exemplified in the life and death of our now lamented brother, Rev. S. Gregg. He was born near Youngsville, Warren Co., Pa., March 13th, 1709, and died at his residence, in Cleveland, Ohio, October 14th, 1877, having been a member of the M. E. Church fifty-two years, and a minister of the everlasting gospel forty-five years. Early in life he became the subject of awakening and saving grace, and was converted and joined the Church when sixteen years of age. His convictions were deep and thorough; his conversion radical; his experience of the deep things of God clear and satisfactory, filling his soul with "joy unspeakable, and full of glory." Soon after his conversion, the Divine Spirit began to move him to activity in the vineyard of the Lord, and his brethren, recognizing his ability, licensed him to exhort in the spring of 1830, and to preach in 1832, at the same time recommending him to the Pittsburgh Annual Conference as a suitable person to enter the traveling connection. He was received into full connection, and ordained a Deacon, in 1834, and at the first session of the Erie Conference, in 1836, was

ordained Elder, since which time he never failed to attend the annual sessions of his Conference, and to participate in its deliberations.

As a preacher, he gave evidence of a clear and comprehensive knowledge of the plan of saving grace; presenting Christ as the only, yet all sufficient Savior of those who by faith accept Him; and by his persuasive eloquence, leading many to the "fountain of life" and salvation, who will be "stars in his crown of rejoicing" in the day of the Lord.

He was modest and unassuming, and yet possessed of a laudable ambition to succeed in his calling as a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ, which led him to use all the means within his reach to qualify himself for any work the Church might assign him: accordingly he arose to positions of honor and trust, being appointed to some of the best stations in the Conference, as Erie, Jamestown, Painesville, Akron, Cleveland, etc. He also filled the office of Presiding Elder of Ravenna District, and was honored by his brethren as their representative in the General Conference.

He has left some evidence of his industry and ability as a writer in "Early Ripe Fruit," "Infant Church Membership," and two volumes of the history of the Erie Annual Conference.

His end was exceedingly peaceful and his rest glorious. The writer visited him during the session of his Conference, held in Cleveland, and found him failing, and, on inquiring, found that he was in a very happy frame of mind. He said, "I never look to Him but He smiles upon me." On a subsequent visit, a little before his departure, his peace seemed to flow like a river, and his visions of heaven to be as unclouded as the sun shining in his strength. He requested us to sing the piece, "I hear thy welcome voice," which was sung for him and followed by prayer. I said, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." He responded, "Yes," and also quoted several passages of scripture, the full import of which he seemed to realize and enjoy. The Savior's promise of peace was fully realized in "the chamber where the good man was meeting his fate." "Hail, heavenly voice, once heard in Patmos, write; henceforth the dead who die in Christ are blessed. Yea, saith the Spirit, for they now shall rest from all their labors."

BEV. WILLIAM HUNTER, D. D.

Rev. William Hunter, D. D., was born in the north of Ireland, May 30th, 1811, and died in Cleveland, Ohio, October 18th, 1877. When a child he came to America with his parents, who settled in York Co., Pa., where his father soon after died, leaving him with his two brothers and a sister in the care of their mother.

His early educational advantages were limited, but so well improved that when yet a youth he gave gratifying evidence of a vigorous, well balanced mind, and creditable progress in culture, with more than ordinary genius for expressing his thoughts and sentiments in writing.

Dr. Charles Elliott, a scholar and educator at that time connected with Madison College, visited the neighborhood, and noticed with satisfaction, the talents, character, tastes and industrious habits of young Hunter, and, believing that he had abilities for greatly enlarged usefulness, encouraged his efforts

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