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OFFICIAL MINUTES

OF THE

Wilmington Annual Conference

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church

(SIXTIETH SESSION)

UNION M. E. CHURCH

WILMINGTON, DEL.

MARCH 28 to APRIL 2, 1928

BISHOP WILLIAM F. McDOWELL President
DISSTON W. JACOBS Secretary
JAMES A. LEACH Conference Host

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d having been, last Oc-
Fraternity, a large dele-
ticipated in the service

y should have place in
us more to us than may
ours, travel-worn and
great Commander. He
y death, to a life never
to be forever with the
has entered.

J. W. EASLEY.

NGS.

Capt. Elisha and Mary
orn Nov. 17, 1856, and
ettsville, Va. Brother
was educated in Mary-
ington Seminary, New
er period he was taken
ve up his studies, and
his farm. Afterward,
ered the Virginia Con-
pointments: Wythe—
Berryville. When the
Wilmington Conference
ing charges: Phoebus,
on, Marydel and Fair-

wife was Miss Nettie
his widow, Mrs. Carrie
Elizabeth Stallings of
May 8, 1927. Broth-
posed as gall trouble.
is funeral was held at
timore Conference of
theran Pastors of his
a short service con-
Baltimore Cemetery

refined Christian gen-
tely) and saw by the
ce.

"Servant of God, well done!
Thy glorious warfare's past;
The battle's fought, the race is won
And thou art crowned at last."

H. S. DULANY.

WILLIAM BALL GUTHRIE.

William Ball Guthrie was born on a farm in Harford County, Md., Sep. 29, 1849, and died at Kenton, Del., March 30, 1928. His parents were godly Methodists, and the son honored them by an early response to their example and instruction, being soundly converted in the sixteenth year of his age. His elementary education was gained in the public school of the county. Leaving the farm about the time of his conversion, he began the trade of blacksmith, later an edge-tool maker, at which he continued until twenty-five years of age when the definite call to preach came to him, and seeking further preparation for the work he entered the Wilmington Conference Academy (now Wesley Collegiate Institute), and joined the Wilmington Conference at its session held in Cambridge, Md., March 7, 1883, Bishop Matthew Simpson presiding. His classmates were Revs. Vaughan S. Collins, Alpheus S. Mowbray and the writer of this memoir. He served faithfully the following Charges:—Pocomoke Circuit, Westover, Fruitland, Holland's Island, Houston, Gumboro, Somerset, Rock Hall, Marydel, Magnolia, Chincoteague, Millsboro, Roxana, Burrsville, Vienna, Westover, Powellville, Wye Mills, Kenton, and Queenstown, taking the Retired Relation in 1921, and making his home in Kenton, Del. On Nov. 25, 1886, he was happily married to Miss Elizabeth West Coats of Preston, Caroline County, Md., and from this union seven children were born, five of whom survive to mourn with the devoted mother the loss of this "Good Minister of Jesus Christ."

Brother Guthrie was a man of studious habits, possessed an analytical mind of a high order, a mental grasp that astonished those who had opportunity to observe the tenacity of his hold upon the subject once thought out for pulpit discourse. He wrote no notes for pulpit, and never wrote more than the sermons required for Conference examinations, but could produce, with a few minutes notice, any sermon he had ever preached. His ability to preach was gladly conceded by all the Charges he served and by all his brethren in the Conference. He never quite left the trade of edge-tool maker, for those who knew him well and heard him often will remember with keen delight that the tools he used in his long ministry were forged and tempered by the skill of an artisan who was a "Workman who needeth not to be ashamed" of his output.

A famous Roman General said: "I never throw away a sword as long as it will cut." The edge of Brother Guthrie's sword never turned, and it never failed to cut. His sermon on the "White Stone and the New Home" was one of the few great sermons the writer has been privileged to hear. That day he seemed to be at home in the steller spaces. He

browsed among the great themes of the Bible, and found rock bottom for his faith in the story of the redeeming Christ, "Whose going forth have been from old, even from everlasting." He was a man of a retiring disposition, much given to introspection, yet capable of warmest friendships, and to congenial friends gave freely of the best that was in him. To win and hold the confidence of this truth seeing and truth loving man was a charter of nobility. A good man has gone from us, but we do not see him disappear in some dark alley but going up through the highlands with the sun in his face, upborne and enraptured by the prospect beyond, the land of Beulah, and the delectable mountains.

The funeral services were held in Kenton Church in charge of Rev. J. H. Geoghegan, April 1st, and good men laid him away to rest in Odd Fellow's Cemetery in Smyrna, Del., and "Made lamentations over him."

With Tennyson our Brother could say:

"Sunset, and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to Sea,
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too deep for sound or foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again Home."

G. L. HARDESTY.

CARRIE DERRICKSON NUTTER.

Mrs. Carrie Derrickson Nutter, wife of the Rev. Melvin D. Nutter, was born near Frankford, Delaware, Sept. 5, 1872. She was the daughter of John F. and Nancy Derrickson.

On Sunday morning, March 4, 1928, at Church Hill, Md., while her husband was conducting services in the Church, God's Messenger came and called, and she quietly slipped away to join the loved ones in the "Upper Kingdom" with:

"No time for a last farewell,
No time for the shock of fear,
Scarcely a moment's halt on the shore,
With the guide and the boatman near—
Think how surprised she was to go,
With little to suffer, little to know.

Only a moment of dark,
A dream of the fleeting night,
And then the beautiful break of day
And the quiet peace of light;
And she found herself where she longed to stand,
In the repose of the fatherland."