



MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Central Illinois Conference

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church

HELD AT

Macomb, Illinois, September 20 to 25, 1899

OFFICIAL RECORDS

REV. H. K. METCALF, Editor, Sheldon, Ill.

REV. L. F. CULLON, Statistical Editor, Toulon, Ill.

REV. N. T. ALLEN, Publisher, Galesburg, Ill.

FROM THE PRESS OF
THE WAGONER PRINTING CO.
GALESBURG, ILL.

of God will long be felt among the powers that govern us. He rests from his labors, but his works the Savior said, "They shall walk with me in white,

our church at Abingdon and was in charge of several brethren were present. H. D. Clark reader offered prayer. Appropriate remarks were given by the presiding Elder J. H. Ryan. S. Van Pelt, W. H. The burial took place in Abingdon cemetery.

PHUS F. FOREMAN.

Rev. Josephus F. Foreman was born near Mazon, Grundy county, Ill., March 31, 1858, and died in Wesley Hospital, Chicago, on Tuesday night, August 22, 1899; aged 41 years, 4 months and 21 days.

He was converted when 11 years old and united with the Methodist Episcopal church the same year.

His parents and others testify that he began in all seriousness to preach when he was but 4 years old.

At the age of 19 years he was licensed to preach, but being modest and retiring in disposition, he did not enter upon the active work of the ministry until some years after. While riding along the road one day near Lexington, Ill., he felt burdened with a sense of his responsibility.

He then and there promised the Lord that he would enter upon the work of the ministry as soon as possible. Every day his Presiding Elder, Rev. B. W. Baker, of Lexington and asked him to take charge of our churches at Rose and Varna until Conference. He kept his promise, and in September, 1888, was admitted into the Central Conference.

He was ordained deacon in 1889 and elder in 1891. He served for a term of four years each, viz: Bell and Saunemin.

He was a perfect gentleman, Christlike in character and cordial in his manner and was loved by all who knew him. One of the very best of the younger men in our church. In the work of the ministry he attended school at Wesleyan University.

He was happily wedded to Miss Lucy Hanks. This was his only daughter, Myrtle Estella, to gladden their lives for eight years. Then the Master came and called for him, but left behind this testimony: "I love

Jesus; I know he has forgiven my sins." She was graciously and conscientiously converted at the age of 7, and united with the church of which her father was pastor. The doubly bereaved wife and mother returned to her former home at Fairbury, Ill., to mourn in silence over the loss of her God-given treasures until the glad meeting again on the bright Celestial Shore. The parents, Josiah W. and Eliza F. Foreman, bereaved of their only child, Frank, returned with sad and lonely hearts to their home at Monon, Indiana, there to await the summons when there shall be a happy reunion in that better country where parting is no more.

For four years or more our departed brother struggled manfully against disease and death. At times he was temporarily disabled for duty and sought relief, but found it not. In the midst of it all he never murmured nor complained, neither did he falter in his purpose nor flag in his zeal and enthusiasm for the cause of Christ.

In his mid-week prayer service, a short time before his last illness, some of his members feeling solicitous for his restoration to health prayed earnestly for him, but he calmly assured them that it was all right, "for I know whom I have believed. I have committed it all to Him and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him."

The last week in July he and his devoted companion went to Pontiac, Ill., to rest awhile and attend the Chautauqua exercises. While there he grew worse, and, acting upon the advice of friends and brethren in the ministry, he departed for Wesley Hospital with the hope that a surgical operation could be performed which would bring relief and prolong his life. On arriving at the Hospital he was too weak to undergo a thorough examination. A fatal malady had seized upon his kidneys and he was being consumed by malarial fever. He never rallied, but sank rapidly until released by death. Before his departure he expressed a desire to recover for "the work's sake," that he might complete his year's work and bring up his reports to Conference. Yet he had a desire to depart and be with Christ, which was far better than to remain a helpless sufferer in the flesh.

The day before his death he spoke of the bright and beautiful morning, and longed to fly away and be at rest. Heaven seemed real, beautiful, desirable, and not a land afar off. At 11 o'clock on Tuesday night, August 22, his spirit took its flight to Him who gave it. He was thus early converted; early called to the work of the ministry and early crowned. May we not truly say, "Servant of God, well done; thy fight is fought, thy race is run."

Friday morning, August 25, appropriate funeral services were held in the church of which Bro. Foreman had been pastor for about four years. Rev. R. B. Williams, D. D., Presiding Elder of Kankakee District, conducted the services and preached a very helpful, comforting sermon. Rev. John Rogers, a former pastor of the deceased, made appropriate remarks. Revs. Alexander Smith, M. L. Miller, N. D. Hanes and M. M. McCreight participated in the service. The remains were laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery at Fairbury, Ill.; there to await the summons from on high: "Come, ye blessed, of My Father inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

LUCY MATILDA HANEY.

Lucy Matilda Burnet was born in Saratoga county, New York, February

20, 1819, and died in Peoria, Ill., July 19, 1899, in the 81st year of her age. She united with the M. E. church early in life. Upon her arrival at Peoria she united with the church there by letter from the church in Chardon, Ohio.

She came to Illinois in 1884 with her uncle, Rev. John Chandler, of sainted memory, and his estimable wife. For two years she lived with them, when, in March, 1846, she was married to Rev. Freeborn Haney. After three years of happy married life her husband died. After his death she returned to Peoria and until her death she made her home with her cousin, Mrs. Ira Benton.

She was wonderfully self-sacrificing, a model of patience, amiable and kind-hearted, and a devout, faithful, loyal Christian. She was unconscious from the time the stroke of apoplexy came until the angel of death came. While she left no dying testimony, her whole life was a constant commentary upon the religion she professed to have and enjoy. For fifty years a widow, she has doubtless joined her itinerant husband "in the land of the dead."

The encomium of Christ to the woman of his time can be truthfully said of Lucy M. Haney—"She hath done what she could."

MRS. MOLLIE L. W. ARCHER.

Mollie L. Wellington was born at Guyandotte, West Virginia, March 31, 1864, and departed this life at Pennoyer Sanitarium, Kenosha, Wis., May 25, 1899. She was the daughter of Noah and Elizabeth Wellington. Her mother died when she was about six years of age. Her childhood was spent under the watchful care of an earnest Christian father and grandmother.

September 11, 1888, she was united in marriage to Rev. Sanford P. Archer, who was at that time a member of the West Virginia Conference, and pastor at Guyandotte. In a few weeks after her marriage she came with her husband to Raritan, Henderson County, Ill., he having been transferred to the Central Illinois Conference, where they spent the first two years of their married life. 1890-'92 were spent in the pastorate at Elvas-ton, 1892-'93 at Wataga, 1893-'96 at Reynolds. At the conference of September, 1896, they were appointed to Neponset, which was her home at the time of her death. She was taken sick in January last, and gradually grew worse, until her condition became so alarming that she was taken to Wesley Hospital, Chicago, April 5, and from there to the Pennoyer Sanitarium, Kenosha, Wis., April 26, where she remained until the time of her death. Everything that medical science could do was done for her. Six days before she died she seemed to improve very much, and great hope of her recovery was entertained by her physicians, but on Wednesday afternoon she was taken suddenly worse, and passed away at 12:30 p. m. Thursday. During her long illness she was patient in a most marked degree, and nurse and physicians repeatedly spoke of her kindly spirit and patient resignation to her sufferings.

She was converted and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Guyandotte, W. Va., March, 1885, during the pastorate of Rev. Wm. Rader. Her Christian life was most helpful to those who associated with her. She was generous and kind hearted, ready always to put her own pleasure aside in order to make someone else happy. This natural aptitude was greatly