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OF THE

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OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church

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Literature.

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SUBJECTS FOR ESSAYS.

U to the Ministry.

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Development of the Doctrine in the New Testament

ty, Environment and Personality in Human Destiny. Sible and Modern Thought.

other subjects accepted.
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i. 12:1-6. Isa. 65:17-21.

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ndies are to be prepared and five sets sent to the Secretary beners to retain a copy. The Secretary will distribute the quest. Buckey, T. W. McVety, J. E. Connor, W. E. Shaw, who will swithin April or May, at such time and place as suits their constricts. The examinations are to be upon the books and not upon sire the return of papers they will so request and send postage 191 urged to send their Essays, Sermous, Syllabi and Exercise early as the Spring Examinations, and in every case to furnisher the Session of Conference. Examiners will report at once to hey have or have not passed at the examination. We urge that en will take advantage of the Spring Examination.

Memoirs.

REV. RICHARD HANEY, D. D.



Rev. Richard Haney was born in Washington County, Pa., April 15th, 1812, and died in Altona, Ill., Jan. 27th, 1900, in the 88th year of his age. Lying between these two events was a life well lived. In the church of his choice and the country he loved, the time covered by his life saw most of the progress and development attained by each. When he came upon the stage of action a little fringe of population along the Atlantic coast, with a few adventurous spirits that had invaded the great west, was all there was of the Republic. Only a few thousand members and a few traveling ministers composed the Methodist Church.

The year of his birth Madison was re-elected President and war was declared between England and America. The exports from the whole United

States amounted to only \$38,500,000, while the imports were nearly twice that much. The year he died the balance of trade was many millions more than the imports. For the three years preceding his death the excess of exports over imports was more than one billion, four hundred million dollars. Almost every great industry his birth preceded. The great forces and factors of society and civilization in their wide operations have had either their birth or greatest growth since his own birth. He was a part of that, was one of the builders and fashioners.

In the Methodist Church he loved so well and for whose advancement he so fervently prayed and ardently labored, the growth and progress has been no less marked. That year the eight Conferences reported 156,552 white members and 38,505 colored members, which was a gain of 10,790 members over the preceding year. The territory included all the southern states and

territories and upper and lower Canada then included in the old Genesee Conference. The year of his death, excluding the membership of the Church South and Canada, the Church had 17,000 itinerant ministers and 2,700,000 on its membership rolls, with more than twenty-six millions of money raised for all purposes, in a territory that in 1812 was a primeval forest or unbroken sweep of prairie.

If it be true that the times in which a man lives stamps itself upon and in some sense is the maker of his character, we may look for something of itinerant restlessness in the life, and one full of energy, activity and marvelous progress. His life is a sort of hyphen connecting the pioneer past with the pulsing present. He knew the past and loved it, but did not live in it. He did not wring his hands and bitterly moan at the grave of the dead past. A living present and hopeful future filled to the horizon, heart and soul and brain. He had a most blessed and inspiring sort of optimism. He did not believe that Satan had a mortgage on the church and world and was now in the act of foreclosing it. He did believe in God, and the great mission of the Church of Christ to save this world. He did believe that the hands that were pierced by the nails of hate and superstition, were, in their might and almightiness, swinging this old world nearer to righteousness and God. Out of that narrow realm of thought that belonged to earlier times there was evolved a wide vision and stalwart faith. The fact of his conversion he always looked upon as his emancipation. It broke the shell of his environment, and soul and brain came into their heritage of a glorious freedom.

He was converted when a lad, and felt the call of God to him for labor in his vineyard. The "woe" of the gospel was on his soul if he refused obedience to the heavenly vision. To him it was a call and not a career that opened up before him his work in life. Much to his surprise it was only a little while after his conversion that a license to exhort was voted him by the class of which he was a member, and was duly signed by Rev. Wm. Wheeler the preacher in charge. He shrank from accepting; but an Irish chum of his b whood argued and shamed and loved him into accepting it and using it Feeling the call imperative to preach and feeling his unfitness for it he determined to go to Norwalk Seminary to better fit himself for the work God had chosen him to do. To get the money to take him to school and pay his board for a short time, he had split rails at 25 cents a hundred. After reaching Norwalk he got a job of a Mr. Crabbs cutting cordwood at 25 cents a cord. At this he worked Saturdays and mornings and afternoons when ever he could get the time, to pay his tuition and board. Among his first sermons, if not his first, was one preached at Perkins Church. This he often referred to. His own absolute failure on that occasion brought him into sympathetic relations with "first efforts" that he never could have had but for that first attempt of his own. The late Bishop Harris was his classmate at Norwalk.

After the close of his school at Norwalk he returned home and was recommended by the Quarterly Conference to the Ohio Annual Conference where in 1834 he was received on trial and appointed to a charge in that Conference. Owing to a severe sickness he could not go to his work and his physician thought it best for him to go West to Illinois where the preceding

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ol at Norwalk he returned home and was Conference to the Ohio Annual Conference trial and appointed to a charge in that Conkness he could not go to his work and his n to go West to Illinois where the preceding year his father's family had moved. In the early winter of 1834 he landed in Illinois, and in the spring of 1835 was employed by the elder to fill out the year at Rushville, as the pastor of that church had resigned. In the fall of 1835 he joined the old Illinois Conference, stayed in that until the Rock River Conference was set off. He continued in that until the Rock River Conference was divided when he fell into the Peoria, now Central Illinois Conference. In each of these Conferences he filled the leading churches. For twenty-five years he was a presiding elder. Five or six times he was elected a delegate to the General Conference, served on the Missionary Committee and Book Concern Committee, and was elected chairman of the latter committee. He was chairman of Committee on Boundaries at two General Conferences. But few men were better or more widely known, especially in the State of Illinois than was Richard Haney. His style of preaching made him popular with the masses of the people. He was not a close logician but he was a captivating preacher. As finished and fine single sentences fell from his lips as ever were uttered by man. His heart was as tender as a woman's; his courage was unquestioned; his wit keen; his humor sparkling; his command of language wonderful; his rhetoric almost faultless; his imagination vivid; his spirit so kindly and loving, coupled with a physique that in his best days was magnificent, a bearing that was princely and a personal magnetism that charmed people, it was little wonder he was welcomed warmly in log cabins and princely homes, in backwoods school houses and metropolitan pulpits. Two events in his life gave him great satisfaction to recall:

One was the drafting of a resolution that was presented to and passed by this the Central Illinois Conference asking President Lincoln to manumit the slaves in this country, and this Conference by the adoption of that resolution was the first ecclesiastical body praying the president to lift the burden of bondage from the shoulders of our brother in black.

The other was the part he took in founding that great school of Methodism—the Northwestern University. He called the meeting to talk over plans for its beginning. He presided at the meeting to elect its first board of trustees. He was a charter member of that board. He continued a member of that body until his death. He watched the growth and development with tender solicitude and pardonable pride.

Dr. Haney's first wife died in 1865. Dr. Haney was again married on May 1st, 1877, to Mrs. Mary E. Quimby, of Monmouth, Illinois, where he

resided until his death.

During the war he was chaplain of the Sixth Regiment Illinois Infantry until sickness that came nearly terminating in death compelled his resignation.

Peter Cartwright was his first presiding elder in Illinois; and between the two there existed the warmest friendship until the death of that stalwart old hero of Methodism.

On the 25th day of January, 1900, he was a guest in the home of his old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Main, of Altona, III. On the morning of January 26th he arose from his bed, partially dressed himself, and said to the young man who came into the room, "I feel some pain." He assisted him in lying down again and in a moment afterward the soul of the old hero was with

God, while a throb of sorrow and a sense of loss was felt in a thousand households as the story of his death was told.

Funeral services were held in Altona where he died, in Monmouth where he lived so long, and in Peoria where he was buried by the side of the wife of his youth, who had preceded him thirty-five years along the pathway that shows no returning footsteps. He died just as he wanted to die, painlessly and without a long sickness.

Take him all in all he had few equals and fewer superiors. He was a sweet-souled, tender, loving, noble, manly man. He reached the period of life when the blossoms of past ambitions were dead and the outlook toward the nearing springtime was wider and clearer. There came into his life as age came on a wondrous charm. Time had brought experience, experience wisdom, wisdom forbearance and sweetness and love. Not that he did not possess these before, but a ripeness and mellowness came into his life with the coming years that it was a real charm and pleasure to meet and greet him. His youth was beautiful and the closing life was beautiful. Between these lids of the book of life was the story of battle, strife and struggle, of conflict and conquest. Some of the pages were blurred and indistinct where trials were recorded, and some luminous where the story of victories for God and righteousness were told.

Better and brighter than most earthly lives was this epistle of his life His personality, not the number of the years of his earthly life, was the reg ister of his days. He carried with him the fresh wholesomeness of child hood, joined with the serene, wise peacefulness of a sweet and aromatic old age. An optimist of the old school, he believed that somehow there was the rule of righteousness in this old world and that some way all would be right in the end. He put his faith in God over against all evil and wrong that seemed triumphant now. The sharp winds sometimes clamored at his window casement, and some sad days there were when the wintry sky was leaden and cold and gray, and the day shut down with but few stars studding the wintry sky; but for him there was always the beautiful time just a little way beyond. To him the sun of to-morrow was always bright. Beyond the snows of winter there was ever the panoply of a cloudless day. The flower starred springtime lay so near the winter of his age that he was ever hearing the song of its brooks and inhaling the odor of its flowers. He died without a dollar of his own, but he died a millionaire. The moving spirit of his life was not ambition, not money-making, not a love of notoriety, but a sublime passion for self-sacrifice.

O, these grand, heroic old pioneer preachers! How their ranks are thinning. If it be true that heaven's best gifts are best won by giving all of them, then it is surely true that these men, the vanguard of the coming civilization, this noble band of pioneer preachers, this company of John the Baptists, the forerunners of a mighty republic and matchless moral force, won all, for they gave all and received all. These were the men who were in line of battle where contending forces met, and they made the future. They were no insignificant part of these forces. We honor them, these ascending Elijahs! Are the Elishas waiting to catch the garments of simple faith and loving labor and willing toil and peerless sacrifice and heroic courage these old prophets of God wore so worthily when they tabernacled here in the flesh?