

ey

### The Estey Organ

Fifty years of conscientious experience in organ building makes the Estey Organ of to-day the most enduringly musical instrument of its kind in the world.

### The Estey Piano

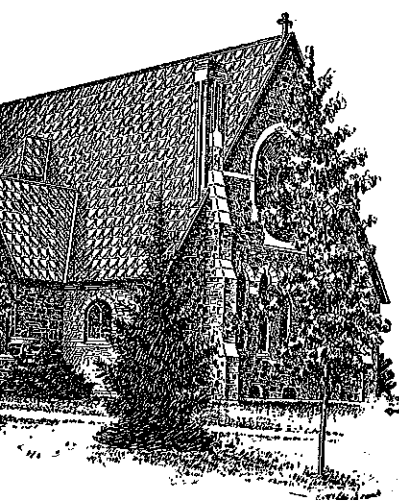
is an excellent piano sold at a moderate price.

All instruments fully warranted.  
Send for Catalogues.

Estey & Saxe, 97 Fifth Avenue, New York

Mc in a name is a good indication, and thank God we have  
—DR. CADMAN.

THIS CHURCH IS COVERED WITH THE  
WRIGHT VICTORIA METAL SHINGLES



Storm-proof  
Fire-proof  
Handsome  
Durable  
Easily and  
Rapidly  
Laid

Send for  
Catalogue  
Prices and  
Samples

ROOFING CO. { 50 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Philadelphia, Pa.  
134 Van Buren Street, Chicago, Ill.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

66TH SESSION

# MINUTES

OF THE

# TROY ANNUAL

# CONFERENCE

OF THE

# METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HELD IN

Saratoga Springs, N. Y., April 20-25

1898

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY THE SECRETARIES

TROY, N. Y.  
MANN & HASTINGS, 22 Third St.  
SUCCESSORS TO SMYTH & CO.  
Booksellers and Stationers

ALBANY, N. Y.  
LEONARD PUBLISHING CO.  
Cor. So. Pearl and Beaver Sts.  
Booksellers and Stationers

PRESS OF EATON & MAINS, 150 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK

ample had influenced his friends also to rise  
 ers' Institute was successfully inaugurated  
 later the academy was chartered and began  
 e new and beautiful church appeared.

e of the evidences of the substantial benefits  
 administration of this generous and godly  
 at beautiful little city by the lake inquire  
 child of a cottager might answer, "Look

of each season deeply interested him—  
 tic celebration of Independence Day, the  
 ools, the Sunday School Assembly, and pre-  
 nd the annual camp meeting. The camp  
 and work of the Association, none the less  
 has come to include such important educa-  
 e right of way and the most generous hos-  
 n the best week of the active year. This  
 hose godly prayers and songs and whose in-  
 e to accentuate and to supplement all the  
 hools.

coil, often of perplexing care, of heroic sac-  
 nfort, of needed rest, and latterly in failing  
 years, perhaps the happiest of his whole  
 te personal relations into which he was  
 ators and ministers; he listened with the  
 es of great preachers; and he sunned him-  
 he godly young men who came to Round  
 e Gospel ministry. Who of us can forget  
 e presented in recent years as, with his  
 ite beard, he was wont to appear on the  
 e the season, or failed to be touched with  
 ents, yet always courageous and hopeful?  
 gust, when we heard him deliver himself,  
 utiful, but also very pathetic," "It is, per-  
 s to be. On the Wednesday afternoon of  
 nference with a committee of our Board in  
 d. A good part of the session the doctor  
 t?" Could it be anything else than plan-  
 d Lake?

ve to the importance of the great themes  
 , discriminating, and logical as ever; but  
 ng, and his sight had grown dim. During  
 s eyes were entirely closed. Obviously he  
 yet no word about himself. How to ad-  
 ncern, thus literally to the last hour of his  
 surprised to have heard the rumbling of  
 s translation. I might have called out,  
 and the horsemen!" but only as a fare-  
 my heart to call him back to labor and to  
 remaineth to the people of God. Full of

years, full of successful and beneficial labors for the upbuilding of two genera-  
 tions, full enough of earthly honors, let him pass to his assured reward. As his  
 venerable form disappears from mortal sight I can almost fancy I hear this mes-  
 sage from his pallid lips, "Let the grand work go on; make it more thorough,  
 more attractive, more beneficial, and by ample endowment make it permanent."

Departing in the confident hope that these godly aspirations will be verified,  
 heaven itself will have to him an added charm. Who that knew the long, the  
 busy, and beneficent life of this venerable Christian man could forbid me to say,  
 standing by his casket, "Servant of God, well done!"



**Peter M. Hitchcock.**

Peter M. Hitchcock was born in the village of Stanbridge, Province of Quebec,  
 October 1, 1807, and died at the home of his son in Glens Falls, N. Y., April 8,  
 1898, in his ninety-first year. He came of a line of pioneer Methodist preachers.  
 His father, Barnabas Hitchcock, and his uncle, Luke Hitchcock, were well-known  
 ministers in the early days of Canadian Methodism. At eight years of age he  
 was a newsboy in the streets of Montreal. While yet a mere boy he was con-  
 verted to Christ, and before he was seventeen he had already been licensed, first  
 as an exhorter and then as a local preacher. Soon after he reached his majority  
 he crossed into the United States, and for several years served under the presid-  
 ing elder as a junior preacher on large circuits on both sides of Lake Champlain.  
 In 1834, at the age of twenty-seven, he joined the Troy Conference, and at the  
 time of his death he was, with one exception, the oldest member of that body.

The record shows the following as his list of appointments: 1834, Granville;  
 1835, Leicester; 1836-37, Sandlake; 1838-39, Cambridge; 1840-41, New Leb-  
 anon; 1842, Pittsfield; 1843-44, Johnstown; 1845-46, West Station, Albany;  
 1847-48, Schuylerville; 1849, Salem; 1850-51, Mechanicville and Stillwater;  
 1852-53, Waterford; 1854, Middlebury; 1855-56, Sandy Hill; 1857, Granville;  
 1858-59, Luzerne; 1860-61, Tomhannock; 1862-63, Greenfield; 1864-65, Nas-

sau; 1866-67, Argyle; 1868, Castleton; 1869-70, South Adams; 1871-73, Cooksboro; 1874-75, Pottersville; 1876-77, Ticonderoga; 1878-79, supernumerary; 1880-97, superannuated.

Brother Hitchcock was twice married. His first wife was Phoebe Jane Pierson, to whom he was wedded September 11, 1834, at Fort Ann. Her death occurred May 14, 1855, at Middlebury, Vt. On May 22, 1856, he married a cousin of his first wife, Henrietta Pierson, who shared with him the labors and joys of an itinerant's life and preceded him by two years to the home above.

Brother Hitchcock was a tall, splendidly built man, and when in the vigor of early manhood must have been a commanding figure in the pulpit and everywhere. As a preacher he was forceful and logical. He loved to dwell upon the great truths of Scripture. In the latter part of his life he wrote a whole sermon in poetry, by which he proclaimed the great doctrine of the Atonement. After he reached his ninetieth year he still continued, as opportunity offered, to preach Christ. By his sympathetic nature and his intense fervor, he was well fitted to be a good pastor—a true shepherd of the sheep.

In prayer meetings and other religious gatherings one frequently heard him say, "I delight to preach the word," or, "I delight in the service of the Lord." To him the duties of a Christian life were not irksome tasks, but delightful privileges. Everyone felt the power of his hopeful, genial spirit. After he was confined to his rooms, when his friends visited him, his first question usually was, "Have you any good news to tell me?" or, "What good word have you brought me?"

During his long life he had seen many changes in both church and society. Fondly cherished customs, long-established and deeply rooted principles had been set aside, and new and doubtful experiments introduced. These inevitable changes, with the burden of increasing years, have made many a man discouraged and pessimistic. But Brother Hitchcock grew more joyful and hopeful with every passing year. As fruit ripens and mellows by the touch of every breeze and shower and ray of sunshine, so his heart ripened for the kingdom.

It is a great pleasure to the many friends of Brother Hitchcock to know that his last days were days of great peace and comfort, spent in the home of his son, Charles H. Hitchcock, where his children ministered to his every want.

Like some glorious summer's day, this long life drew to its close. Without organic disease or any great pain, he lay down to rest. Just as when in childhood he reclined his head upon his mother's breast and forgot his childish cares, so this great, strong man was a child again, and leaning his head upon his Saviour's bosom he literally "fell on sleep."

Brother Hitchcock died on the morning of Good Friday, and was buried in the afternoon of Easter Sabbath from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Glens Falls, which he had attended so many years. A large audience, composed of people from all the churches, attested the high esteem in which he was held. The pastor, Rev. C. V. Grismer, assisted by Rev. Robert Patterson, Dr. Joseph E. King, and several other ministers, conducted the funeral services. The body was laid to rest in Union Cemetery, near Fort Edward. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

C. V. GRISMER.

### Loyal H. Bradford.\*

Loyal Harry Bradford was born in Crown Point, N. Y., October 4, 1874, and died at Manchester Center March 9, 1898, of appendicitis, after an illness of four days. He was the eldest son of Rev. C. A. and Eugenia A. Bradford.

He was converted during his boyhood. During the five years of his father's pastorate at North Ferrisburg he attended the high school at Vergennes. He was licensed to preach early in 1896, and in September following entered the Boston School of Theology, and remained till the Conference session of 1897, when he was received into the Troy Conference, and was appointed pastor of the Ripton and East Middlebury Charge, which he served till September, when he was relieved to attend the Yale School of Divinity for special studies.

Last summer a man who had listened to his preaching six weeks wrote to me: "If he keeps on as he has begun a good work will be done here this year through his instrumentality. He has a clear head, is a good judge of men and things, does not obtrude himself or his opinions, has evidently his own plans, and knows enough to keep them to himself, is easy of approach, affable to all, a deep thinker, and a good preacher. If spared he will do a good work for the Master. There is a peculiarity about his preaching that I have discovered in but very few—there is a single idea that runs through the whole discourse. Mark him for one of our coming men."

He seemed to have had his birth among the stars; for he knew and loved them from his childhood, and five years of reading and studying astronomical works made him a master before he attained his majority. One month after he was twenty-one years of age he was elected a member of the Royal Astronomical Society of London. And the stars to him were the witnesses of God; they did not bound his thought; they sung to him of the divine Hand who made them.

He said to me once, "Much as I love astronomy, I love theology better." Thoughts of God charmed him more than thoughts of the stars.

He was engaged to lecture on astronomy at Ocean Grove next summer.

He was a genius also in the use of the crayon, and has delighted many audiences with his sketches. He was employed last summer at Ocean Grove and at Round Lake, where the creations of his pencil were highly appreciated. This skill gave him a rare power to draw that large class of people to the house of God who have become indifferent to it. This was seen in his work at East Middlebury last summer.

He had not only rare qualities of mind, but also of heart; he was one to love and be loved. His gifts and graces, his genial warmth and cheerfulness, his unselfishness and gentleness, won him many friends wherever known. I have never known a young man with a clearer mind, a purer heart, or a steadier, firmer confidence in God. He walked in the light with God, and saw him as the pure in heart do. He was one of the Lord's jewels, which he lent to us for a little time; he may now be in the Master's diadem.

His death was entirely unexpected; only four days before he died he was in his usual health.

The night before the end a surgeon announced that there was no hope, that he had but a short time to live; but it did not ruffle the calmness of his mind or weaken in the least his faith. He commenced at once to talk of his going away

\* We could not obtain a likeness of Brother Bradford.—SECS.