

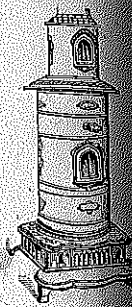
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M I N U T E S

OF THE

FOURTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

New York East Annual Conference

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD AT

WATERBURY, CONN.,

APRIL, 1862.

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In 1842 he became effective, and was transferred to the New York Conference; in which relation he continued until 1852, which year he passed as Superannuated. In 1853 he was effective. In 1854 he was obliged to superannuate, but at the ensuing Conference his relation was changed to effective, and in 1855 he was appointed Chaplain to the Seamen's Friend Retreat on Staten Island.

He was well adapted to the duties of this position, and was held in the highest esteem by the Officers and Managers of that Institution. His enfeebled health compelled him to resign his Chaplaincy in 1858, and to ask for a superannuated relation.

In all his work he was punctual and patient, firm and affectionate, sparing no labor or sacrifice to promote the cause of God and the comfort of his brethren. As a presiding elder he was much beloved. "He was a high-minded, intelligent and honorable man;" of refined taste, delicate feelings, with dignified and affable manners. He was faithful as a pastor, and particularly devoted to the interests of the Sabbath School. He was often truly eloquent in preaching, and exceedingly happy in his illustrations. His last illness was brief but painful. One night amid his sufferings he requested his wife to repeat to him the lines:

"Jesus, thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress."

He remarked, "How beautiful!" On the day of his death he said to Mrs. Matthias, among other words of consolation, "If disembodied spirits are permitted to return to this world, I will love to be with you." About midnight he entered into rest. The Sabbath but one before his death, he preached his last sermon from the text: "And there shall be no more death."

JOSEPH LAW was born in Washington County, New York, on the 10th of October, 1798. He was converted to God at Newburgh, in the year 1815, and admitted on trial in the New York Conference in 1830, having previously served the Church eight years as a Local Preacher. He had not the advantage of early education, but by diligent study and unwearied perseverance he qualified himself for extensive usefulness in the Church. The larger portion of his ministerial life was spent in various appointments in the cities of New York and Brooklyn—having been in charge of Second Street, Duane Street, Sullivan Street, Cherry Street, in the former, and of the Centenary Church, York Street, South Third Street, Franklin Avenue, Dean Street, and Warren Street, in the latter. Among the other appointments which he filled, were New Haven First and New Haven Second Church, Hartford, and Winsted, in the State of Connecticut, and Hempstead on Long Island. During the latter years of his ministry he was occupied almost constantly in the work of church building, five of the largest church edifices in the city of Brooklyn having been erected under his supervision.

As a laborer in the Vineyard of our Lord, he was diligent and faithful; as a preacher, eminently practical and successful; sound as a theologian, and as a pastor, watchful and beloved.

and was transferred to the New York Conference until 1852, which year he passed as Superannuated. In 1854 he was obliged to superannuate, his relation was changed to effective, and in 1855 he was transferred to the Seamen's Friend Retreat on Staten Island. In 1856 he was elected to the duties of this position, and was held in the highest estimation by the members of that Institution. His enfeebled health prevented him from discharging the duties of that Institution. His enfeebled health prevented him from discharging the duties of that Institution. His enfeebled health prevented him from discharging the duties of that Institution.

cal and patient, firm and affectionate, sparing no pains for the cause of God and the comfort of his brethren. He was a high-minded, intelligent man, with a refined taste, delicate feelings, with dignified and noble manners as a pastor, and particularly devoted to the cause of the poor. He was often truly eloquent in preaching, and his sermons were full of practical applications. His last illness was brief but painful. He requested his wife to repeat to him the lines:

God and righteousness
are my glorious dress."

ful!" On the day of his death he said to Mrs. Shaw for consolation, "If disembodied spirits are permitted to love to be with you." About midnight he said to his wife but one before his death, he preached his last sermon, "There shall be no more death."

Washington County, New York, on the 10th of August he was called to God at Newburgh, in the year 1815, and was buried in the New York East Conference in 1830, having previously served as a local Preacher. He had not the advantage of a liberal education, but by study and unwearied perseverance he qualified himself for the ministry in the Church. The larger portion of his ministerial labors were in the cities of New York and Albany. His appointments in the cities of New York and Albany were as follows: First Church, Second Street, Duane Street, Sullivan Street, and the Centenary Church, York Street, Brooklyn Avenue, Dean Street, and Warren Street, New York. His appointments which he filled, were New Haven Church, Hartford, and Winsted, in the State of Connecticut, and Long Island. During the latter years of his life he was constantly in the work of church building, five churches in the city of Brooklyn having been erected under his supervision.

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At our last session it was evident that his work was almost done, and he received a superannuated relation. Less than two months thereafter, namely, on the 11th of June, he died of typhoid fever in the city of Brooklyn. On his dying bed he frequently requested the sorrowing friends around him to sing; and a little before his spirit departed, as they were singing these lines from one of his favorite hymns:

"On Jordan's stormy banks I stand,
And cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land,
Where my possessions lie,"—

his eye kindled with rapture, and he gave the whispered assurance: "All is well."

REV. JACOB SHAW died at Redding, Conn., April, 1861. He joined the itinerant ministry in the New York Conference in 1835, and from that time until within a few years of his death, occupied various stations and circuits in the New York and New York East Conferences, with success and great acceptability to the people.

He was a man of superior mind and attainments, and of a large and varied information; but so singularly retiring and unostentatious in his manner and habits, as perhaps to be unappreciated by the merely casual observer. He was a genial companion, a true and constant friend, guileless as a child; and those who knew him best, loved him most. As a Christian minister, he "approved himself to God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." His preaching was clear, cogent and instructive, often rising into the region of high philosophic thought. In 1858 he retired from the Itinerancy, to the village of New Rochelle, the scene of his last year's labors, and thence came in the spring of 1859 to the rural village of Redding, where twenty years before he had dispensed the word of life to a loving people. His fellow-citizens soon showed their confidence in him, and appreciation of his talents, by electing him to represent them in the State Legislature. The winter of 1860-1 found him laboring hard "to obtain things honest in the sight of all men" on his little farm, in a common school through the week, and preaching at a distance from home on the Sabbath; but his labors were beyond the power of endurance of his failing energies. A violent stroke of sickness laid him low on what proved to be his death-bed, and from the first paralyzed his faculties. In the earlier part of his affliction, he expressed a calm, hopeful trust and confidence in God and his providence, but in the latter part his reason wandered until it sank down into unconsciousness, and little by little the weary wheels of life stood still. But although he died and gave no sign, yet his constant Christian life assured his Christian death,—he had walked uprightly before God and man, and that God who had given him grace would give him glory also.

The funeral services were attended by persons of all classes and denominations, while the addresses of the Presiding Elder and the brethren from the surrounding charges made the solemn occasion one to be long and deeply remembered.