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FORTY-NINTH SESSION AT CHARLOTTE, N. C.,

November 25th to December 2d, 1885.

BISHOP JOHN C. KEENER, PRESIDENT.
DONALD W. BAIN, SECRETARY.

Edited by DONALD W. BAIN.

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MEMORIAL SERVICES.

The Bishop opened the services.

It was announced that the following members of the Conference had died during the year:

John W. Lewis, Robert P. Bibb, Henry Gray, John W. Floyd, Charles H. Phillips, John N. Andrews, Baxter C. Phillips, Lemuel H. Gibbons and William I. Hull.

T. S. CAMPBELL read the following memoir of JOHN W. LEWIS:

MEMOIR OF JOHN W. LEWIS.

Rev. John W. Lewis was brought up in his native county of Randolph, N. C. His family was among the best people of the county. He received such training in schools and business habits as fitted him for life's responsibilities and exerted upon his whole life and character a salutary influence. We know not the date of his conversion and connection with the Church. But he entered on probation, the Virginia Conference in 1833 when about 25 years of age. He continued in the regular work fifty-two and a half years. The first year he was assigned as helper to Iredell circuit, second to Stokes circuit as helper; in 1835 in charge of Straits, 1836 Duplin, 1837 Iredell, 1838 and 1839 Rowan. From that time till his death he traveled circuits, often at great inconvenience and sacrifice of domestic privileges. His last charge was Abbott's Creek Mission.

He was consecrated, zealous and devoted to his work. He never complained of any appointment and always went to his work promptly and cheerfully. He discharged his duty according to his ability usually with much success. When in his prime, he was one of the most successful revivalists. Hundreds of persons in sections where he labored, were led to Christ by him, and few will receive a crown fuller of stars than his. He attended to all the interests of the Church. It is believed that he was instrumental in building more churches than any other member of the Conference. These stand as monuments to his zeal, good management and love of souls. He did hard work and did it well. He had a fine mind well stored with good things. His common sense and sound judgment were conspicuous traits. He was brother-in-law of the late Rev. James Reid and maternal

uncle of Rev. Dr. N. F. Reid. He was their loved and trusted friend. When Dr. Reid died, he wrote his biography and did it well.

In the community in which he lived for years every body had the utmost confidence in him and loved him devotedly. He had a bright, cheerful and deep piety that charmed and attracted both old and young. His was a full rounded character and one ripe for Heaven. He died at home in Thomasville, of paralysis, May 23, 1885. He has gone from labor to rest.

R. T. N. STEPHENSON read the following memoir of ROBERT P. BIBB:

MEMOIR OF ROBERT P. BIBB.

Rev. Robert P. Bibb was born and brought up in Nelson county, Virginia. His family was highly respected and pious.

His educational advantages were such as to develop and train his mind and cultivate his taste. He professed faith in Christ in early life, and his life and piety were consistent. Having united with the Methodist Church, he soon gave evidence that he was chosen of God for usefulness in the Church. He entered on trial in the Virginia Conference in 1836, and was sent as helper on Bedford circuit. The next year he was stationed in the town of Washington. Then on Tarboro circuit, next on Orange. He continued to labor with acceptability and usefulness on many fields of labor, until he became so enfeebled, that, in 1875, he asked to be placed in a superannuated relation.

He returned to his home at Trinity College, but did not lose his love of the gospel, but labored with the brethren on charges near him with his usual zeal and with a good degree of success.

He preached his last sermon at Prospect Church, Randolph circuit, July, 1884. From that time he gradually gave way until the 29th of June, 1885, he fell asleep in Jesus. On approaching the river he spoke as if it would afford him pleasure to pass over and be with the brethren who had gone before. Robert P. Bibb was a good preacher. He was conversant with many poetical works, and especially with Methodist Hymnology. His preaching was magnetic. People were delighted to hear him.

J. R. GRIFFITH read the following memoir of HENRY GRAY:

MEMOIR OF HENRY GRAY.

Rev. Henry Gray was born in Williamston, Martin county, N. C., March 23d, 1800, and died at his home near Orange Factory, Durham Co., N. C., Saturday, March 18th, 1885, and his remains now rest in the cemetery at