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METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,

FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION,

HELD AT

WILSON, N. C., DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> TO 15<sup>TH</sup>, 1890.

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

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tian life. He loved God. He was a man of prayer. He had an experience. He searched the scriptures. He honored to the end a pledge he made in early life to his mother, that he would read one chapter of God's word each week day and three on Sabbaths. This promise he never broke. Even when too feeble and eyesight too dim to read himself in his last sickness, he requested others to read to him. His last day on earth was a Sabbath, and a day of suffering and pain, but his mother's covenant must not be broken; his chapters must be read. The reading went on, verse by verse, at broken intervals, till the task was complete.

For weeks before he died he talked a great deal about death, and about how much he loved his brethren in the Conference—would like to meet with them once more. Then he would begin to name over those he would meet in Heaven. One of the last things he said was, "My trust is in the living God."

The home of Dr. Mangum was refined, cultured, sweet and Christian. In his young manhood he married Miss Laura O. Overman, of Salisbury, who was to him the light and joy of his heart and home. The mother of his children, the self-sacrificing friend in his itinerant ministry; the sharer of his joys and sorrows for twenty-six years, she was no less his devoted and patient companion in his last hours, and her sweet ministry was given tenderly beside his dying pillow till God closed his eyes in sleep. "Well done."

"Forever with the Lord,  
Amen. So let it be!  
Life from death is in that word.  
'Tis immortality."

Memoir of James E. Mann, presented by W. S. Black:

#### MEMOIR OF REV. J. E. MANN, D. D.

Rev. James Emory Mann, D. D., was born in Chatham County, N. C., December 26th, 1832. He embraced religion and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, when sixteen years of age. He received a fair classical education at a neighboring academy. At twenty years of age, feeling that he was called to the office and work of the ministry, he was licensed to preach, and at the age of twenty-one he joined the North Carolina Annual Conference at its session in the city of Raleigh in 1853. Always in the effective ranks, never absent from a session of his Conference, he received his appointments from year to year as a faithful, loyal, itinerant preacher, serv-

ing eight years on circuits, twenty-one years on stations and eight years on districts.

"Through heat and cold and storm his way has lain;  
He never heeded pleasure's syren strain  
Telling of easier paths, nor turned aside  
To pluck the flowers in meadows green and wide."

He was ordained deacon by Bishop J. O. Andrew, at Wilmington, November 18th, 1855, and ordained elder by Bishop G. F. Pierce, at Goldsboro, December 6th, 1857.

The following were his appointments: 1854, junior preacher Halifax Circuit; 1855, Staunton, Va., in Danville District; 1856-'57, Winston; 1858, Wilmington, Fifth Street Station; 1859, Plymouth; 1860-'61, Winston; 1862, Washington Station. From Washington he was soon run out by the Federal army. He went to Winston, organized a company of soldiers, of which he was elected captain, and joined the Confederate army. He soon resigned, and was made a chaplain in the army. He remained in this position, administering to the soldiers, until his health failed, and he returned home. He was sent, in 1863, to Forsyth Circuit; 1864-'65, Madison Circuit; 1866-'67-'68, Mocksville Circuit; 1869-'70-'71-'72, Fayetteville Station; 1873-'74, Goldsboro Station; 1875-'76-'77, Wilmington, Front Street Station; 1878-'79-'80, P. E. Washington District; 1881, P. E. Warrenton District; 1882-'83-'84-'85, P. E. New Berne District; 1886-'87-'88-'89, West Market Street Station, Greensboro.

Dr. Mann provided handsomely for the entertainment of the last session of the North Carolina Conference, which was held in Greensboro, closing up his fourth year as the beloved pastor of West Market Street Church, and was stationed by Bishop Hargrove at New Berne, N. C.

Dr. Mann was a Trustee of Trinity College, and intensely interested in that institution. The honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was most worthily bestowed upon him by Trinity College, N. C., in June, 1889. Dr. Mann was a strong preacher. Realizing that "the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," he preached that gospel, expecting large results, and God honored his ministry in the conversion of many souls. He could not be satisfied with a barren ministry. A hard student, he prepared, with "well-beaten oil," for the intellectual and religious development of those who waited on his ministry. Said one of the leading educators of our State to me a short while before his death: "Dr. Mann studies hard and studies systematically, on a line calculated to enrich his sermons and enlarge his capabilities. I know of

no young man more diligent in this respect." Faithful in every department of church work, our beloved brother labored to place on a higher plane the standard of Christian education, and the Sunday-school and missionary enterprises prospered under his fostering care. He loved the children, and drew them to him by the strength of his affection.

As a pastor he was greatly beloved, and the poor and afflicted of his charge soon learned to know him as a trusted and sympathizing friend. Quiet and retiring in his disposition, "those who knew him best loved him most." His friendship, though not demonstrative, was sincere and abiding. His was the very soul of honor. He was, indeed, "one of nature's noblemen." To his tried friends he was confiding and trustful to a degree that spurned dissimulation and hated hypocrisy. His gentility was proverbial, and no one who ever knew him failed to recognize the fact that he was, in the highest sense, a Christian gentleman. He studied to be kind, and was never happier than when contributing to the happiness of his fellows. In his own family circle his great, loving nature shone brightest and sweetest.

Selecting as a companion in his itinerant life Miss Mary Miller, of Winston, N. C., who has most beautifully discharged the duties of her responsible position, he shielded her, in all possible ways, from its hardships and trials. To their children, three sons and three daughters, he was ever kind, gentle and loving, and they made him their confidant and adviser in all their plans. As the oldest son bowed over the casket containing the loved remains, the day after his death, having gone with all possible haste, in answer to a telegram, only to find that the father he so much loved and served had already "passed over the river," he, weeping, said, "He never spoke an unkind word to me." With these sweet memories remain to them the invaluable heritage of his beautiful Christian life.

The circumstances attending the death of our beloved brother were unusually sad. Bidding adieu to his loved ones, near the shores of the Atlantic, he went to St. Louis, for the second time a representative of his Conference in the General Conference. As we journeyed thither he referred to the last session of the General Conference held there, and to the fact that two of its members had died there during its session. "But," said he, trustfully, "Heaven is as near St. Louis as North Carolina." How little did we think that the history of the past would be so soon repeated. A few days after reaching St. Louis he was taken ill. Typhoid fever developed, and, though anxious about his condition, we were shocked and grieved at the fatal result. But, though unexpected the summons, Dr. Mann was ready. When his

brethren would engage in prayer around his bedside he would respond earnestly and fervently. He had no dread, no fear, no opposition to God's will, and in the last interview which we enjoyed he said, "I have committed my wife and children and self, all in the hands of my heavenly Father." What golden words of love and trust! Our brother had every attention during his illness, and every possible tribute of respect was paid his memory. Brothers Cupples and Scruggs, of St. Louis, are held in grateful recollection by the North Carolina delegation.

This is no idle eulogy. As we gather here in our annual meeting and miss his well-known form, his kindly voice, we feel bereft. And, amid the tear-clouds which surround us, we lay tenderly, lovingly, hopefully this wreath of immortelles upon our brother's bier. May the God in whom our brother trusted, who made his life so beautiful, and who to-day makes the memory of him so precious unto us, comfort and sustain the crushed wife and children, and us, his comrades and friends.

Dear brother, rest in peace, and may a happy reunion await us in our Father's home.

Memoir of Junius T. Harris, presented by E. A. Yates.

#### MEMOIR OF REV. JUNIUS T. HARRIS.

Rev. Junius T. Harris, Presiding Elder of the Durham District, died in Durham, November 19th, 1890, at 11 o'clock A. M., at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Julian S. Carr. The immediate cause of his death was pneumonia and cardiac neuralgia, brought on by exposure to cold in the discharge of his duties as a minister of Christ.

He joined the Conference at Greensboro in 1870, and devoting himself to the itinerant ministry, he met its obligations with a heroic faith and a manly heart.

The subject of this sketch was born in Davidson County, N. C., and was a little over 46 years of age at the time of his death. His parents died when he was quite a boy and left him a helpless orphan. Being forced to support himself, he became a shoemaker by trade early in life. When sixteen years of age he entered the Confederate army and surrendered with Johnston's army near Durham in 1865. Coming out of the army, he determined upon seeking a collegiate education in order to prepare himself for the ministry, to which he