



MINUTES

FIFTIETH SESSION OF UPPER IOWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HAMPTON, IOWA
SEPT. 27 TO OCT. 2, 1905

W. H. SLINGERLAND, SECRETARY
Des Moines, Iowa

E. W. JEFFRIES, PUBLISHER
DIXON, ILLINOIS

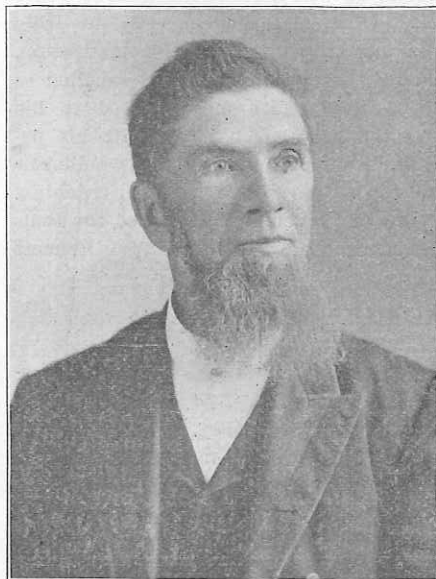
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1905

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WILLIAM EDWARD M'CORMAC.

Rev. William Edward McCormac was born in the north of Ireland, March 16, 1824, and died at the home of his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Jones, Des Moines, Ia., July 17, 1905. Between these dates there is a long and beautifully practical, helpful life. His public career began in New York City in 1845 as city missionary.



In 1846, in Clayton county, Iowa, he acted as local preacher, returned to New York, and again to Iowa in 1855, and joined upper Iowa Conference in 1858. His first appointment was Garnavillo Circuit. He served the following charges as the years went by; Waukon, Clermont, Decorah, Hebron, Springville, Dyersville, Lisbon, Iowa City Circuit, West Branch, Langworthy, Wyoming, Camanche, Delmar, Miles, Inland, Center Junction, Raymond, Rhodes. His early ministerial years were those of the pioneer. Large circuits, an undeveloped country, small pay, many hardships, but possessing a good horse, lots of courage,

and a dauntless faith, he traveled the great circuits, preached the gospel he knew about, and won souls for his Christ. Converted in boyhood by the faithfulness of Mrs. Hughes, in whose home he lived, he pressed upon all hearers the desirability and possibility of a Christian experience, and made every charge a battle ground for Jesus Christ. Gospel bullets invariably fell like hail wherever he went, and men were wounded for God. Never asking for an easy well paying appointment, he took with religious eagerness whatever was given and made it better. Earnest and true in his preaching, modest in manner, and white in soul, he, like Enoch of old, walked with God.

Perhaps no harder test comes to an itinerant than the hour when he asks for a superannuate relation, conscious that his active work is done. Just ten years ago such a request was made by the man now crowned. With rainbows in his tears he began his supposedly rest life and became a member of the happy household of his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Blackman, at Bennett, Iowa. When the family moved to Kansas he went with the dear ones, but not to rest.

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rest comes to an itinerant than the hour when a more intimate relation, conscious that his active work is going on, such a request was made by the man now weeping in his tears he began his supposedly rest of the happy household of his son-in-law and daughter, Mrs. Blackman, at Bennett, Iowa. When the time came he went with the dear ones, but not to rest.

Too long had the joy of toil been his to easily surrender. Pastorless churches and tired men of God and discouraged laymen felt the impulse of his presence and rejoiced in his ability to love and lift. The recording angel was kept busy inditing his helpful deeds. No man has greater capacity for good on any charge, as inspiration to the pastor and general benediction to the people than the Methodist Enoch whose days of ministerial wanderings have ceased. Brother McCormac was such to pastor and people.

In early manhood he found happy companionship in Miss Mary J. Neal, who became to him a most loving wife. The children living of this true union are Mrs. Josie Jones, of Des Moines, Mrs. Adda N. Olmstead, Monona, Iowa, Mrs. Jeanie Blackman, Hoxie, Kansas, and Professor Morton McCormac of Chicago. Mrs. McCormac went to her reward in 1891, and the children's homes were all his, but the last three years were spent with Mr. and Mrs. Jones in Des Moines. "Nothing in life became him like the leaving of it." Timid, yet fearless; modest, yet bold; distrustful of self, yet full of confidence in God, he saw with smiles the approach of death. To him it was God's chariot to bear him home. The journey would be brief and the end delightful. Ill but a short time, suffering much while he suffered quietly, and in great beauty like the setting of the sun, he passed out of sight to give added joy to another world. Rev. O. W. Fifer, pastor of Grace Methodist Episcopal church, Des Moines, who had been most attentive to Brother McCormac both in health and in sickness, conducted a brief, tender service at the home, after which the body was borne to Springville, Iowa, a former charge, where Rev. J. G. VanNess, the presiding elder of Cedar Rapids District, and an old friend, conducted the service, assisted by Rev. W. H. Doner, pastor, and Rev. M. J. Locke and Rev. L. P. Krome. The body was laid to rest beside his two Marys, his wife and daughter, in the beautiful cemetery near at hand. After thirty-seven years of active ministerial labor, and ten years of watching and praying while others worked, God gave his servant a rest.

We are quite sure
That He will give them back, bright, pure and beautiful.
We know that he will but keep
Our own and His until we fall asleep.
We know He does not mean
To break the strands between
The Here and There.
He does not mean—though heaven be fair,
To change the spirits entering there, that they forget
The eyes upraised and wet,
The lips to still for prayer, the mute despair.

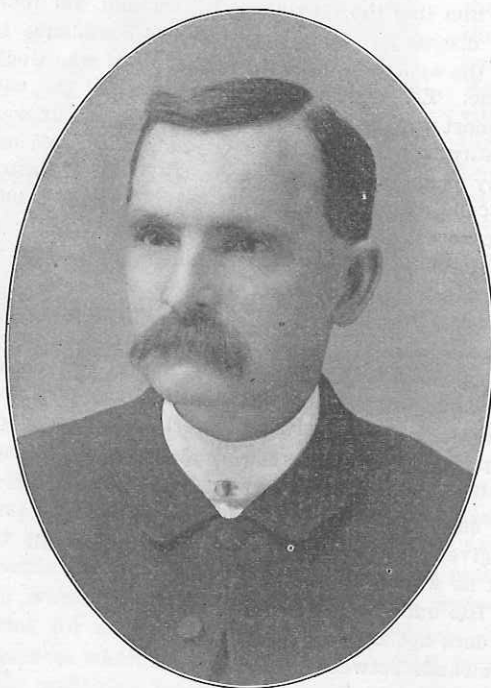
God never made
Spirit for spirit, answering shade for shade,
And placed them side by side—

So wrought in one though separate, mystified
 And meant to break
 The quivering threads between. When we shall wake,
 I am quite sure we will be very glad
 That for a while we were so sad.

J. G. VAN NESS.

ALONZO CAMP.

Rev. Alonzo Camp was born in Leon, Catterogus county, New York, November 2nd, 1838, and died at his home in Cedar Falls, Iowa, April 20, 1905. On August 12th, 1858, he was united in marriage to Miss Louise Winn in Whitingham, Vermont.



faith in Christ and His gospel seemed perfect. He was devoted to his work, not from necessity but choice. Untiring in his efforts and undaunted by any obstacle. Did he undertake to repair or build a church or parsonage, the word fail was not to be found in his vocabulary; and when all around seemed to despair of success, this lion-hearted man said, "I can and will succeed." The results proving the soundness of his faith. Educated at the public schools, completing his four years' course in the Conference, and being of a studious nature, he

In 1867 Brother and Sister Camp came to Iowa. For many years before entering the ministry, he was a classleader and active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church. He united with the Upper Iowa Conference on trial the fall of 1886, and did faithful and conscien- tious work in his chosen calling; until stricken with his final illness. Bro. Camp was a unique character, incapable of being judged by ordinary standards. He had a thorough conviction of the Gospel he preached to save men. His

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