

# MINUTES

—OF THE—

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

—OF THE—

## Erie Annual Conference

—OF THE—

Methodist Episcopal Church,

—HELD AT—

**WARREN, WARREN CO., PA.,**

Commencing Wednesday, Sept. 27, 1882.

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M. SIMPSON, D. D., - - Presiding Bishop.

W. F. DAY, Secretary.

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A. J. MERCHANT, Editor.

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1882.

and many followed her into the church of her choice. She afterwards married Rev. Josiah Flower, and was a helper to him in all the abundant labors of his ministry.

Sister Flower was kind, genial, hospitable. No itinerant ever came to her door unwelcome. Her trials in the itineracy were many, but she looked not on the sombre, but on the bright side, and said that if she were to live her life over again, she would choose that of the wife of a Methodist preacher.

Her life was irreproachable, and everywhere was she beloved.

The remaining members of the family are a brother and sister, who need the sympathy of all in their loneliness and bereavement.

J. G. TOWNSEND.

MRS. MARGARET J. MOORE.

Margaret J., wife of Rev. George Moore, was born in West Middlesex, Mercer Co., Pa., Oct. 4, 1829. Her early associations were formed in the Presbyterian Church.

October 29, 1850, she married Rev. George Moore, and has been an honored and useful member of the M. E. Church since that time.

Sister Moore's life was rich in good works, always calm, of a sweet and even temper of mind. She blessed her home, her children and her husband, and made it a center of mutual affection and delight. She was a woman of strong faith. She believed, loved and obeyed her God. Some twenty years ago her faith was put to a severe test. She was brought down to the gates of death, and all hope of recovery was gone. She looked upon her three little children and then into the face of her husband, saying, "I cannot leave my three babes to the cold world without a mother's care," and with a faithful promise to God that she would never again ask to be spared, she prayed that she might live to see her children reared to manhood and womanhood. Her prayer was heard and answered, and from that hour she began to recover, and she remarked in her last sickness, "God has kept his promise and I am ready and willing to go if it is His will."

The children are an honor to their parents, filling noble and useful places in society and in the church. And the mother who so cared and prayed for them has completed her good work, rests from her labors and her "works do follow her." Weary and worn by the toils and sacrifices of the wife of an itinerant minister's life, her frail constitution sank under the pressure, in the last long move to the Ripley Charge, coming across the country in a carriage, exposed for two days

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to an incessant storm of rain, was the probable cause of the fatal  
 disease which bore our lamented Sister Moore to the grave. From  
 this time she had the presentiment that her sickness was unto death,  
 but she was ready to go, and said to her husband, "I have attended  
 to this while in health." Her mind was clear and serene, free from  
 doubts and fears, full of hope and joy. She often would repeat the  
 precious words "perfect peace." Not a murmur nor complaint was  
 made, though at times suffering great pain. No darkening shadow  
 crossed her vision of the glorious future. She loved home and children,  
 but she bid them adieu, for her Master called for her and she must go  
 to her Savior in Heaven. On Sabbath, May 7, 1882, about 3 o'clock,  
 p. m., Sister Moore felt the cold, chill hand of death. She said,  
 "Death has come and I must go." Looking earnestly into the face of  
 her husband, she said, "I have entered the river, do you think it will  
 be wide?" Her confidence grew strong in God, and when she could  
 no longer speak the words of victory, she waved the signals of triumph  
 and fell asleep in Christ, to wake amid the beauties of Heaven.

J. E. CHAPIN.

MRS. JANE PRATT.

Jane Gallaway, wife of Rev. Rufus Pratt, was born in Cambridge,  
 Washington County, N. Y., Feb. 28, 1809, and died at her home, in  
 Chautauqua, Jan. 26, 1882. She married Mr. Pratt April 30, 1829.  
 About two years after her marriage she made a profession of religion,  
 and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she re-  
 mained a faithful member until death.

As the wife of an itinerant minister she knew well the hardships of  
 frequent removals, the painfulness of severing cherished associations,  
 and the sense of homelessness which every itinerant must feel; yet,  
 amid all the discomforts and deprivations incident to her husband's  
 calling, she made home cheerful and happy. Both husband and chil-  
 dren leaned upon her counsel. In every community where she lived  
 she was known as a genuine Christian, with a heart full of sympathy  
 and love for all.

A large concourse of neighbors and friends gathered to witness the  
 obsequies. After an appropriate sermon by the pastor, Rev. W. O.  
 Allen, fitting remarks were made by a former pastor, Rev. D. M.  
 Stever. The husband, children, and many friends of Mrs. Pratt,  
 think not of her as an occupant of the cold and silent grave, but as a  
 welcome inhabitant of a world where death comes no more.

J. E. CHAPIN.