

**HOURS FOR VISITORS**

8:00 to 11:00 A. M., 2:00 to 4:30 P. M.

**INSTRUCTION BY MAIL**

In all branches of Engineering. Courses in Mechanical, Electrical, Steam, Civil and Sanitary Engineering; Architecture; Drawing; Designing; Chemistry; English Branches; Pedagogy. \* \* \* \* \*

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**The International Correspondence Schools**  
**SCRANTON, PA.**

ANNUAL MINUTES

YEAR BOOK

**WYOMING**  
**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

OF THE

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**FIFTIETH SESSION**

HELD IN

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**WEST PITTSTON, PA.**

**APRIL 9 TO 15, 1901**

Binghamton Republican Print

## MEMOIRS

### BISHOP WILLIAM XAVIER NINDE

We must believe in blood. The study is not always to our pleasure. Good breeding helps to success, or renders more speedy the way to ruin.

William Xavier Ninde was born June 21st, 1832, in Cortlandville, N. Y., and died in Detroit, Mich., Jan. 3rd, 1901. Bishop Ninde was well-born. His father was a well-known minister, famed for his eloquence. His mother came of a choice family that was blest with rare taste and culture. Because of the early death of his father it became necessary for him to live in Lowville, N. Y., with his grandmother. The choice academy of the town gave him a good and early fitting for college. At twenty years of age he entered Wesleyan University and completed the course in three years and was graduated in 1855. Many of his classmates have come to marked prominence in business, politics, and the professions.

Immediately following his graduation he taught a few months in the academy at Rome, N. Y. But he was not allowed to long delay from the great work to which he had been notably called by the spirit. Others could teach who could not and ought not to preach. So pronounced was this conviction that they who were nearest to him not only consented to give him authority as a preacher of the gospel, but urged that he accept it.

His first charge was Fulton, N. Y., which has always been a station of prominence, because of the business and literary characteristics of the town. Here was located the famed Falley Seminary, named for its founder, the Hon. Frederick Falley. Fortunately and providentially was his way thus led, for in 1857 Miss Sophronia Falley came to be the wife and companion of whom he was always rightfully proud. Five children blest their home. One went early to its home beyond; the daughter is the companion and comfort of her mother; the two youngest boys are at college; the oldest son is pastor at Ann Arbor, Mich., an honor to our denomination and in charge of one of its largest churches.

The ability of Dr. Ninde as a preacher became so notable that after serving Adams and Rome in his own state, he was wanted in many parts of the church. He accepted an invitation to Trinity church, Cincinnati, Ohio, and later served Morris, Union and Christie Chapels in that city. Here he was well nigh idolized. He knew the people, prayed in their homes, was ideal in conducting social meetings, always was fruitful with plans and suggestions, and was a born leader. He served two terms at Central church, Detroit. Twice he was at Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill.; once as professor of Historical and Practical Theology, and then as President. While in the last office in 1884 he was chosen the first of four Bishops elected at that General Conference.

These assembled items may tell to passing ones whence came our friend, where and whom he served. But his nature was packed with elements that make men great.

He was companionable. Famed and titled ones sought his company, but he knew how to make the shy and the timid feel easy and restful. He was brotherly. A little authority never made him assumptive. Patiently he would listen to a sorry tale from a tired itinerant, and then would speak with brotherly sympathy. If the man missed what he went to get, he came away believing that the world was kindlier than he thought.

He was a devout. Many who are rollicking and even rough are more pious than we give them credit; but this man, by whose resting-place we lay this flower of our spoken affection, bore with him the atmosphere of piety. To



**BISHOP WILLIAM X. NINDE**

Born June 21, 1832

Died January 3, 1901

see him was to believe that he partook of the spirit of St. John. It was in the purity of his conversation, in his approach and bearing. Another has well said of him, his "was a pure soul, a white life, a gentle touch, a model of patient fidelity, persuasive spiritual force, an apostolic bishop."

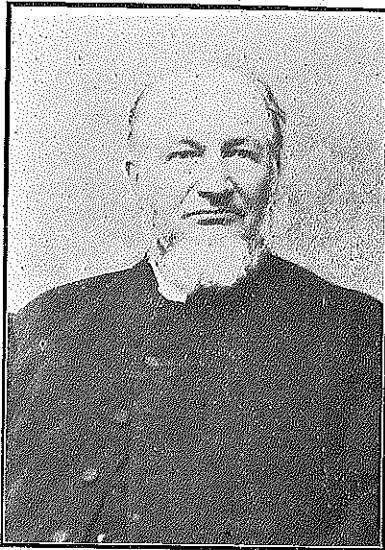
But, as is always true, none dreamed that the end was so near. There is a house in this city of Pittston where some that are here sat down with this good man we mourn, four and thirty days before he went to his God. Assigned to preside at this session, he came to this place to plan for this very week. During the few days that followed he was with us in both our near cities, at church services and at our district gathering.

The last day of the year and century he reached his home. He was cheerful and had about him no suggestion that he was near the bounds of life. The day after the new year came he went to say kind words at the funeral of a personal friend, little dreaming that ere another dawn the white horses and the chariot would stand at his own gate. He laid him down alone that night, for special quiet and needed rest, and none can tell at what o'clock the convoy came.

"He is gone who seemed so great,—  
Gone; but nothing can bereave him  
Of the force he made his own  
Being here, and we believe him  
Something far advanced in state,  
And that he wears a truer crown  
Than any wreath that man can weave him.  
But speak no more of his renown,  
Lay your earthly fancies down,  
And in the vast cathedral leave him.  
God accept him, Christ receive him."

*Mrs. Hard*

## REV. GEORGE PARSONS



George Parsons was born in the town of Sharon, Montgomery County, N. Y., December 13, 1810, and died in Fort Plain, same county, May 7th, 1900, a few months less than 90 years of age. He was converted when quite young and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church. In his boyhood he learned the printer's trade. When a young man, for two years he worked in a New York newspaper establishment, where Horace Greeley was also employed.

While yet a youth he became a student at old Cazenovia Seminary. In 1838 he was admitted into the Oneida Conference, and in 1868 in the readjustments of Conference boundaries, in which the Oneida was absorbed, cast his membership with Wyoming Conference. He continued in the effective ranks until 1879, from which time his name has appeared in the list of our honored superannuated ministers.

Father Parsons was a representative Methodist itinerant of the times, only just a little later than the earliest days.

His work in the beginning of his career was largely pioneer and consequently formative. His methods, style of preaching, of exhortation, of prayer, of singing and counseling seekers, was characteristic of the early Methodists. His spirit and deportment was saintly and dignified. He was indeed a model of genuineness, of simplicity, of unselfishness, of devotion to the one work—a minister of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus. He was just such an one as God could use for his glory and safely honor with success.

At his decease he was the oldest member of our Conference. During the years of his superannuation he resided in Fort Plain, only a short distance from the place of his childhood.

He was married three times. His first wife shared with him the toils and experiences of his years in the effective service, and a true "yoke fellow" and "help meet" was she indeed.

They were a noble pair, a Godly couple. He is survived by a widow and two children, the Rev. C. W. Parsons, D. D., a Methodist minister of rarely equaled gifts and usefulness, but now completely disabled and waiting in decrepitude and pain for the final discharge, and a daughter, Mrs. Levi Dederick, of Albany, N. Y.

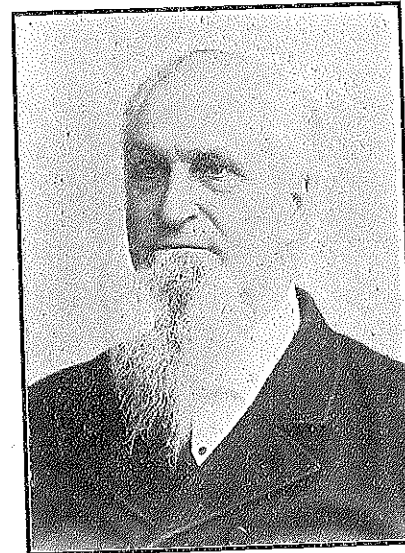
One daughter preceded him many years to the home gathering land, Harriet; at the time of her decease the young wife of a young Methodist minister, Rev. Lyman Marvin, now of Northern New York Conference.

Father Parsons' last days were full of suffering from a cancer and its accompanying ills. His mind was clear to the last, thus able to favor his family with choice testimonials of the sustaining grace of which he assured others so often.

His funeral was held in Fort Plain, directed by his pastor, and interment in the cemetery at Sharon Springs, his native town.

God has said: "It is enough, come sit with Me on my throne, take your view from this higher eminence, receive your crown and share My joy."

## REV. CALVIN V. ARNOLD



The Rev. Calvin V. Arnold was born in Pike, Bradford County, Pa., November 11, 1822, and died at his home, in Binghamton, July 25, 1900. He lived with his parents and worked on a farm until he grew to manhood.

He was converted when a young man, and manifesting an anxiety to secure an education, he entered the Elmira Seminary and there pursued a course of study. After graduating he taught school, but the Lord had other work for him to do. He heard the call of God and gave himself to the work of the Christian ministry. In 1848, at the session of the old Oneida Conference held at Owego, he was received on trial and was sent as junior preacher to the Windsor charge.

He remained in the Oneida Conference until 1852, when the Wyoming Conference was formed, and he was one of the number which composed that body.

In 1850 he was ordained a deacon by Bishop Waugh at Honesdale, and was made junior preacher on the