

OFFICIAL JOURNAL.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

DETROIT CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD IN THE

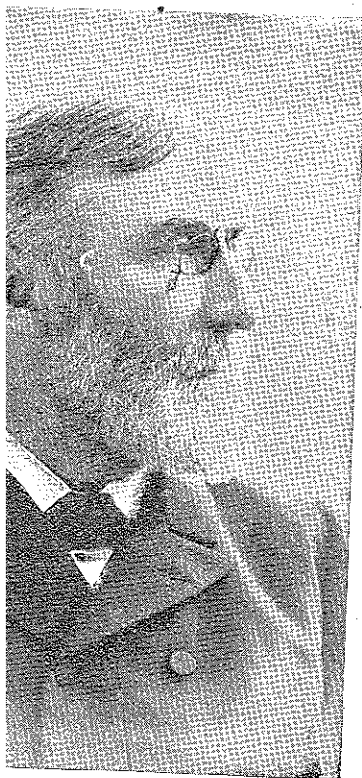
CENTRAL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

Detroit, Michigan, September 13-19, 1905.

BISHOP JAMES N. FITZGERALD, *President.*
A. RAYMOND JOHNS, *Secretary.*

CONTAINS ALL THE PROCEEDINGS AND REPORTS AND
IS OFFICIAL BY CONFERENCE ACTION.

ADRIAN, MICH.:
PRESS OF S. F. FINCH.
1905.



J. N. Fitzgerald

quiet and undemonstrative, she was fully given over to her Master and his service. The Word of God was precious to her. The Bible was her daily study. She read it through many times, marking the passages which especially appealed to her. Her testimony and prayers, as well as her consistent walk and cheerful, hopeful spirit, were ever an inspiration to others. In her home she was a model of patience and kind attention to all. Her husband and children and all who knew her most intimately will rise up and call her blessed, and ever cherish the precious memory fragrant with the grace and devotion of her life. She leaves to revere her memory, her husband and two children, Mrs. Fred E. Osgood, of Morenci, Mich., and Franklin F. Bradley, of Chicago. She has two widowed sisters whose husbands were members of the Detroit Conference, Mrs. Richard McConnell, living in Chicago, and Mrs. G. W. Owen, residing in Milwaukee.

Six years before her death while in the Epworth League room at Grass Lake, where she had gone to lead the service, she was taken with a paralytic stroke, which left her speechless and helpless for some weeks. She never fully recovered, and in the early morning of Tuesday, July 11, 1905, her Master whom she loved so well called her name, and she went to be with Him and the loved ones gone before. We mourn not as those without hope. We shall meet again.

The funeral service was held Thursday, July 13, in the Clarkston church. It was in charge of J. George Haller, the Presiding Elder, who was assisted by Rev. Dr. John Sweet. Interment was in the beautiful cemetery at Clarkston.

J. GEORGE HALLER.

MRS. NAOMI D. SEELYE.

Mrs. Naomi D. Seelye, widow of Rev. Thomas Seelye, was born in Cambria, N. Y., Dec. 14, 1822, and died at her home in Ann Arbor, Dec. 10, 1904. She came from choice New England stock. Her maternal grandfather, Colonel Cooley, of Vermont, was a soldier in the Revolutionary army, and he was also a warm friend of the itinerant Methodist preachers. Her father, Andrew Sutherland, was an officer in the war of 1812. His home, like that of the Cooleys, was a Methodist center. Four of the sons entered the Methodist ministry, and the two daughters, the older of whom was Naomi, married Methodist preachers. After graduating from the Lima female seminary, Naomi moved to Michigan, where in 1848 she was united in marriage to Rev. Thomas Seelye. Through all the following years she was a most faithful wife and mother. She had a voice of singular beauty and strength, and her ministry of song was a blessing to multitudes. She was active in every department of church work. When the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was started she became deeply interested in it and organized auxiliaries in several places. She threw her whole soul into the temperance crusade, and led the praying bands as they went from one saloon to another. But eager as she was for the welfare of the church, the home was her real sanctuary. She was enthroned in the hearts of her husband and children. Every Sunday afternoon during all the years when she had her family with her, she would gather her children about her and read to them from the Bible, and talk with them concerning their religious experience, and pray with them. She was a woman in whose heart a wonderful work of grace had been wrought. Her self-control, amid the most trying circumstances, was remarkable. She was naturally cheerful and hopeful, and a smile of heavenly peace was the characteristic expression of her face. Through the long years of physical weakness she was uniformly patient. She was the soul of unselfishness. Her chief anxiety seemed to be lest she might cause others trouble.

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MRS. NAOMI D. SEELYE.

Seelye, widow of Rev. Thomas Seelye, was born Dec. 14, 1822, and died at her home in Ann Arbor, Mich., came from choice New England stock. Her father, Colonel Cooley, of Vermont, was a soldier in the army, and he was also a warm friend of the itinerant preachers. Her father, Andrew Sutherland, was an officer in the army. His home, like that of the Cooleys, was a comfortable one. Four of the sons entered the Methodist ministry, the oldest of whom was Naomi, married Methodist minister, graduating from the Lima female seminary, Michigan, where in 1848 she was united in marriage with Rev. Thomas Seelye. Through all the following years she was a devoted wife and mother. She had a voice of singular beauty and her ministry of song was a blessing to multitudes. In every department of church work. When the Missionary Society was started she became deeply interested and organized auxiliaries in several places. She went into the temperance crusade, and led the prayer meeting from one saloon to another. But eager as she was for the church, the home was her real sanctuary. In the hearts of her husband and children. Every year during all the years when she had her family with her she read to them and read to them from the Bible with them concerning their religious experience, and she was a woman in whose heart a wonderful work had been wrought. Her self-control, amid the most trying circumstances, was remarkable. She was naturally cheerful and her smile of heavenly peace was the characteristic expression. Through the long years of physical weakness and infirmity she was the soul of unselfishness. Her death was a loss to be least she might cause others trouble.

Though suffering many privations through sickness, her heart never ceased to overflow with gratitude to God. In March, 1898, Sister Seelye suffered a severe stroke of paralysis. For weeks her life hung in the balance. Then she rallied somewhat, and though almost entirely helpless she lived on for nearly seven years. It was a period of rich spiritual blessing to herself and to all who were permitted to see her. The end came suddenly, and in perfect peace she entered into the life more abundant. The funeral was held at the home on Dec. 13, and was conducted by the pastor, assisted by Rev. A. B. Wood, Rev. L. M. Bennett, Rev. J. W. Crippen, and Rev. S. W. Hornor. Five children survive the mother, Osman C. Seelye, of Detroit; Rev. M. T. Seelye, of Bad Axe; Mrs. S. A. Kendrick, and the Misses Carrie and Jennie Seelye of Ann Arbor. The precious memory of this sainted woman will long be treasured by all who knew her. EDWARD S. NINDE.

MRS. CAROLINE BIBBINS.

Caroline Cook was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., April 26, 1829, and died in Ypsilanti, Mich., Oct. 9, 1904. Left an orphan at an early age her young girlhood was spent with several families of friends. In 1849 she came to Lenawee County in this state to live with an older sister. During the next year she was blessedly converted and in 1851 was happily united in marriage with the Rev. Elisha Bibbins, under whose ministry she had been led into christian experience and life. Twenty-four years of arduous service in the itinerancy followed, sixteen years in the Wesleyan Methodist and eight in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Sister Bibbins was a faithful servant of God. Domestic duties were not permitted to absorb her entire time. She delighted to engage in the work of the church and many souls were led into the kingdom or encouraged in the conflict of life by her sweet sympathy and unselfish devotion to their welfare. She diligently studied the Bible and read it through by course seven times.

Being persuaded through the Bible of her high privileges in Christ she trusted in God for entire sanctification and became a shining witness of the fulness of grace. About the end of August, last year, Sister Bibbins suffered a stroke of paralysis. In her afflictions she exhibited much patience and was richly sustained by faith and prayer. So she continued until the call came and she entered triumphantly into rest. Funeral services were held at the home of her son Wednesday morning, Oct. 12, 1904, and the remains were taken to Romulus, Mich., and interred by the side of her husband, Rev. Geo. B. Marsh, of Milan, officiating. GEORGE B. MARSH.

MRS. FANNIE E. PARKER.

Mrs. Fannie E. Parker, widow of Rev. J. E. Parker, was born in Lockport, N. Y., Dec. 20, 1822, and died at Adrian, Mich., at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Channing Whitney, at 1:30 a. m., Oct. 14, 1904.

The immediate cause of her demise was a stroke of paralysis. She had been ill for some time, but was apparently getting better when the fatal stroke came. Her advanced years were against the prospects of recovery, as she would have been eighty-two years of age next December. Fannie S. Hitchcock was the daughter of James and Hannah Hitchcock, residents of Lockport, N. Y. When sixteen years of age, the family came overland to Michigan and settled in Lenawee county, taking up their residence in Adrian soon afterwards. At the age of eighteen she was married to Asa B. Cornell, a resident of Adrian, and by whom she had three children—Franklin, who died