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METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION AT STATESVILLE, N. C.,

November 28th to December 4th, 1883.

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

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I think, when becoming unable to do more, he returned to his father's in Wilmington where he was stricken down immediately with malarial fever, from which, after a few weeks of great distress, he quietly passed away in hope of immortality and eternal life, at the age of 24.

While he was physically incapable of doing the work of an active itinerating ministry, yet circumstances seem to indicate that from a child he was called of God to preach the Gospel. For in his childhood it was his habit to gather his playmates together and go through all the formalities of public worship, they all recognizing him as their leader. And after he was converted, the one absorbing desire of his heart and purpose of his life was to preach Jesus and him crucified. And no argument or persuasion of friends could dissuade him from his purpose. No difficulties were sufficient to dampen his ardor or to quench his zeal. He "counted all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus his Lord." While his preaching may have lacked animation in the judgment of the masses, yet he was remarkably concise in all his statements, and clear and transparent in all his arguments and illustrations setting forth the word of life. The hearer did not soon forget the lesson which he taught. He was not *afraid* to declare the whole counsel of God. Bro. Schulken was a young man of *character*. It has never been our pleasure to be acquainted with a young man of greater integrity, or a higher sense of honor. He had correct moral sense and abhorred littleness and meanness. He was not demonstrative, but was as true as steel. He was our friend, and we loved him like a brother. We shall not forget him, but shall anticipate with pleasure the time when we shall greet him in the skies.

FRANK H. WOOD.

Rev. T. S. CAMPBELL read the memoir of LEMON SHELL.

Remarks in eulogy of the deceased were made by Revs. JOHN TILLET, J. A. CUNINGGIM, and W. S. RONE.

Rev. Lemon Shell was born in Brunswick county, Va., March 1, 1819. His parents, John E. and Mary A. Shell, were persons of high, social standing. His father was a man of strong mind and a physician of eminence; but they neither professed to be christians, nor belonged to the church. When he was nine years old his mother was left a widow. In a few months she sought peace with God through Christ and had her children baptized by Rev. John Early. He said that the first religious impressions he ever

felt, were produced on his heart by seeing his mother engaged in prayer. He was then about ten years old. He was near fourteen before he became willing to embrace the opportunity of presenting himself publicly for prayer. These convictions abated so that he became careless. It was not long in his history before he by some casualty came near being drowned. This circumstance so impressed him, in connection with other striking providences, that he got his consent to consecrate himself to the service of God. Shortly after this, he attended a camp-meeting in Dinwiddie county, Va. Here, under a sermon preached by Rev. A. Dibrell, he was led to seek the Lord earnestly, until he realized, as he said, that the darkness of his soul was cleared away, and he enjoyed a happy sense of reconciliation. "Translated," as he expressed it, "into the light and almost into the glory of Heaven, and his soul was wonderfully filled with the love of God." He joined the Church without delay. When about twenty years of age, while preparing by a course of suitable study for the practice of medicine, being one day engaged in prayer, he was so sensibly impressed that it was his duty to preach, that he carried the thought to God in special petition for guidance. It was not till more than a year, that he was driven by his convictions to the conclusion to preach as best he could by God's help. He then began, by advice of Rev. H. G. Leigh, a course of reading and study as a preparation. Having made the acquaintance of Rev. Dr. W. Carter who, by his suggestions and counsels, greatly aided him, he was brought before the Quarterly Conference of Person circuit, S. S. Bryant, P. E., and licensed to preach; recommended to the Annual Conference and received on trial at Pittsboro, November, 1844. He was regularly and in due course passed to the Orders of Deacon and Elder, with much credit to himself. He was consecrated to his work, and labored both acceptably and usefully, filling such appointments as were given him by the Conference. At the session of 1882, he was returned to Pineville Circuit. Early in the summer his health gave way, and despite all the skill and remedies employed, continued to decline until on the 12th day of June, he calmly closed his labors on earth for the rewards of the blessed who die in the Lord.

Bro. Shell's piety was deep, thorough, earnest. He was a holy man. A man of the strictest integrity. His preaching was of the true evangelical type—simple, clear, forceful. He was a workman not ashamed of his work; nor of the Master who called him to it. He gloried in it and glorified God through it. We pray that we may cherish the same spirit and with him enter the joy of our Lord.