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OF THE
Delaware Annual Conference

OF THE
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(FIFTY-NINTH SESSION)

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REV. ALFRED R. SHOCKLEY.

Rev. Alfred R. Shockley son of the late Jesse and Diana Shockley, was born in Broadkill Neck near Milton, Delaware, Sussex County, January 18, 1849.

He was converted at an early age and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was conscious of a divine call to the christian ministry in his youth. And often in warm weather when working in the field, while resting his horse at the end of the furrow would be found studying his Bible.

Though himself free born, he realized the condition of his brethren and at the age of fifteen ran away to enter the service of his country. He enlisted on June 7, 1864 Company B. Forty-fifth Regiment of U. S. Colored Infantry. He was discharged on Feb. 24, 1865.

Upon his return from the army, realizing the necessity of a thorough training for his calling, he entered the Centenary Biblical Institute, which is now Morgan College, Baltimore, Md. After completing his course at this Institute he taught school for several years. During this time he served as junior preacher under Fathers Wing and Philips.

In the year 1876 he was married to Annie Elizabeth Moore from which union there were ten children: Cora Virginia; Arensy Colwell; Bessie Lynn; Caley Warren; Alphonso Ward; Elwood Gracesconde; Alfred Goodsell; Jessie Lenora; Joseph Wardell; Andrew Fowler. Five of whom survive him.

He became a full member of the Delaware Conference of the M. E. church in 1876 and served the following appointments: Passaic, N. J., 1 yr.; Laurel, Del., 2 yrs.; Germantown, Pa., 1 yr.; Bridgeville, Del., 1 yr.; Haven Phila. Pa., 2 yrs.;—transferred to Newark Conference M. E. Church served in Paterson, N. J., 1 yr, returned to Delaware Conference of M. E. Church served Zoar church Phila., 2 yrs.; Chestertown, Md., 1yr.;—transferred to New York East Conference of M. E. Church, New Haven, Conn., 2 yrs.; served Dover, Del., 1 yr.; Easton, Md., 3 yrs. He became District Superintendent of Salisbury district and served 6 years, District Superintendent of Phila. district 6 yrs., served Montclair 1 yr. Because of ill health he retired in 1905. In 1906 he became effective, served Smyrna, Del., 2 yrs.; Moorestown, N. J., 3 yrs. Retired in 1916, settled in Moorestown, N. J., became a member of Merchantville Quarterly Conference. For several years he served as trustee of his Alma Mater.

On the second Sunday in June he attended the morning service. In the afternoon he went to Zoar Mission. He was too ill to conduct the services but administered the sacrament. From that time on he gradually grew worse, but never complained and was always concerned that the family should not worry. On Monday July 11, the doctor ordered him to Mercy Hospital. On the following Thursday, he remarked he was far enough to test the Jordan. He said "Its all right I left it all with Jesus years ago."

He departed this life Saturday July 16, at 3:30 A. M. He is survived by a widow, five sons, eleven grandchildren a host of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

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Funeral services were held at Zoar M. E. Church, Philadelphia, July 16, under the direction of Rev. J. T. Fletcher, District Superintendent, assisted by Revs. J. H. Scott, J. R. Brown, E. E. Parker, J. E. A. Johns, T. H. Kiah, F. J. Handy, W. A. Hubbard, J. R. Waters and others.

Servant of God well done!
Thy glorious warfare past;
The battle's fought, the race won;
And thou art crowned at last.

JOSEPH R. WATERS.

REV. BENJAMIN W. BERRY.

Benjamin W. Berry a son of Christopher and Mary Berry was born March 1855 in Morg Neck, Kent County Maryland, and departed this life Oct. 15, 1922 in the Cooper Hospital, Camden, N. J., aged 66yrs. 7 mos. He was happily converted in a gracious revival at his home when but a small boy, an experience he loved to relate. Throughout the whole of his life his ejaculations were, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," "I know that I have been born of God." He united with the Church at his home.

Subsequently he moved to Millington, Md., and became one of the strong members of that appointment serving in almost every official capacity. In 1881 he felt the call of God to the work of the ministry. He was licensed an Exhorter by Rev. E. E. Parker who was then pastor of the Charge. In 1884 he was licensed a Local preacher under the pastorate of the late Rev. C. H. Hutchins.

In 1874 he was united in marriage to Miss Hester Smith. It proved to be a happy union. Each found the complement in the other. They were devoted in life and will not be seperated in death. She was indeed his helpmeet through all the trials of his life. When he entered the ministry, though sometimes their lot was exceedingly hard, it is said by those who knew them best, that she was his greatest earthly comfort.

He was used first as a supply pastor in the Conference serving Atlantic City three years under Drs. W. H. Coffey and H. A. Monroe, Presiding Elders. At that time Atlantic City was a struggling Mission, but his ardent leadership laid the foundation for the great Asbury M. E. Church which now is. In 1893 he was admitted to full membership in the Conference and served the following appointments: Burlington, N. J., 1 yr.; Salisbury Ct., Md., 7 yrs.; Bridgeton, N. J., 6 yrs.; Delair, N. J., 1 yr.; was in supernumerary relation, 2 yrs.; served Camden Mission, 5 yrs. and 6 mos.

The funeral services were held in Ferry Ave. M. E. Church, Camden, N. J., conducted by Rev. J. T. Fletcher, Dist. Supt. assisted by the following ministers: E. F. Morris, L. H. McArthur, W. B. Perry, F. O. T. Laws, J. R. Waters, E. E. Parker, C. S. Sprigg, A. L. Martin, J. E. A.

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