

MINUTES

OF THE

Michigan Annual Conference

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church

SIXTY-EIGHTH SESSION

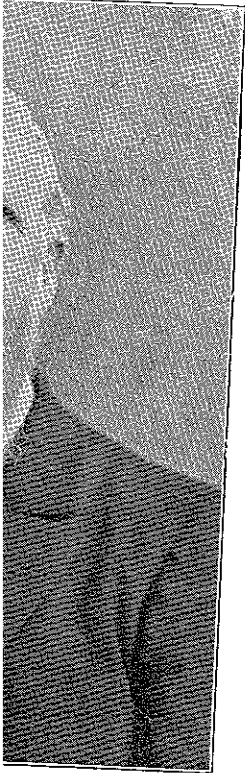
JACKSON, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 25-28
1903

BISHOP CYRUS D. FOSS, D. D. LL. D., *President*
E. A. ARMSTRONG, *Secretary*

The Journal, as printed in these Annual Minutes, is by action of the
Conference made the official record of the proceedings
of the Michigan Annual Conference.

E. A. ARMSTRONG,
Secretary.

PRICE, FIFTEEN CENTS



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more than usual tenderness and sorrow. Sympathetic words were spoken by Presiding Elder G. F. Bovard, the pastor, J. L. Pitner; a former pastor, E. A. Healy; B. S. Heywood, and Mr. A. J. Wallace. Rev. Alfred Inwood and Rev. W. A. Knighton assisted in the service, and Dr. Robert McIntyre offered prayer. A quartette of the brethren sang "Servant of God, Well Done." About thirty brother ministers were present and a numerous company followed the flower-laden casket to its rest in our beautiful Rosedale Cemetery.

E. A. HEALY, Southern California.

The Rev. B. W. Smith.

Rev. B. W. Smith was born December 25, 1833, in Central New York, and died at his home in Platte, S. D., December 28, 1902.

When he was six months old his parents removed to Michigan and settled at Marshall. He attended the seminary at Norwalk, O., and the college at Albion. He gave his heart to God and was converted at the age of twelve years, and from that time forward to the end of his life his faith never faltered. He entered the ministry when twenty-two years old, served three years in the Wisconsin Conference and twenty-five years in the Michigan Conference, when, removing to South Dakota in October, 1882, he took a supernumerary relation, retaining his membership in the Michigan Conference as long as he lived. Brother Smith was one of God's noblemen. Under a seemingly brusque exterior there beat a warm heart, tender as a woman's. The warmest friends he had were those who knew him best. Conscientious to the highest degree, he valued a good character above all things. Where he lived and was known his word was as good as a government bond. On coming to South Dakota he organized a class, and for nearly twenty years he performed the duties of pastor and preacher, and gave largely to the support of the work of the Church. The influence of his work during those pioneer years will never be forgotten, and its benefits will be felt for many years to come. Brother Smith had the educational and missionary interests of the Church at heart, giving largely during his life and making liberal provision in his will for Dakota University, at Mitchell, and for the Missionary Society. The funeral was held at the Academy Church, Rev. W. A. Green conducting the services. A widow and five children survive him, and mourn the loss of husband and father.

W. A. PRATHER.