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MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Wilmington Conference

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

CONVENED IN THE

Union M. E. Church, Wilmington, Delaware,

MARCH 15, 1876.

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ON BURKE.

Elmar M. E. Parsonage, Aug. 1885.

grove, Caroline County, Md. In her nineteenth year, while on a visit and anxious penitent at the pardoning and comforting me, though constitutionally have amplest proof of genuine she at once united in fellowship in all the various means of always bravely witnessed for ented by unavoidable hinder-

did those sterling traits which er, appear to best advantage. thful and loving, and always ther, she was self-sacrificing, r children under the check of elled. Their moral and relig- her anxious attentions; and and by precepts imparted in ail of the fruitage so earnestly

n delicate; but her death to she was impressed from the but she was ready when the ch, with eyes earnestly fixed ke most intense longings for y ejaculated, "Oh, for rest!" Nellie." She then became the "rest remaining to the be "forever with the Lord;" de for, and a large circle of len end. Two children soon ellowship on probation, since saintly dead, "her works do

MRS. CAROLINE R. SMITH.

This estimable lady was born April, 19th, 1833, in Cecil Co., Md. Subsequently, her parents removed to the City of Wilmington, where, at the early age of sixteen, her heart embraced the saving truths of our holy religion, under the ministry of Rev. Dr. T. J. Thompson, at the Asbury M. E. Church.

On the 13th, day of May, 1852, she was married to Rev. Joseph. E. Smith, and from that hour, both in private life and in the more public work of the Christian Ministry, she stood by his side, faithful and self-sacrificing, till the shadow of the valley fell between, and separated, them.

If a true and earnest help-mate is needed in the ordinary struggles and varied engagements of secular work; much more is such an one needed in the sacred and difficult labor of the itinerant preacher. In this relation, for nearly nineteen years, Mrs. Smith did her work grandly and well. Her husband's success in preaching Jesus, was the crowning care of her life, and she sought lovingly to remove all that tended to hinder it, frequently overtaxing her own energies that his might be the more entirely given to his holy avocation.

The lustre of many a star in the waiting crown of the Pastor, is shared by the already crowned Pastor's wife, for her sympathy and encouragement have helped him to win the souls that hereafter shall arise to call him "Blessed."

The piety of our lamented friend was not so much demonstrative as steady and retiring. Her religious life, sounded no trumpet before it, but quietly bloomed and exhaled for the Master's eye and pleasure. Toward life's close, however, her experience was wondrously intensified and quickened. At night, when sleep was denied her, she would arise and spend whole hours in earnest prayer, speaking with God and triumphing in his love. Leaving home to visit a physician who was intimate with the family, she said to the loved ones—"If I do not return, do not be uneasy, I shall go home to heaven. I have no fear of death."

After years of suffering, the end finally came. It was sudden, and comparatively unexpected. Still at the home of her medical friend, at Magnolia, Kent Co., Del., the messenger summoned her, and on the 30th day of January, 1876, amid the holy quiet of the Sabbath twilight—she passed beyond, into the endless Sabbath of heaven.

Her remains rest in hope, in Mt. Moriah Cemetery, near the city of Philadelphia.