

M.

-E.....Windsor, Vt.....S.
-D.....Whitefield.....S.

N.

-E.....Brooklyn, N. Y.....S.
-E.....Manchester.....S.
-E.....Amesbury, Mass.....S.
-E.....Manchester.....S.

P.

-E.....South Newmarket.....P. E.
-E.....Salem.....S.
-E.....Warren.....S.
-E.....Dover.....S.
-E.....Portsmouth.....S.
-D.....Hillsborough Center.....S.

Q.

-E.....Claremont.....S.
-E.....Tilton.....S.

R.

-E.....Sunapee.....S.
-E.....Moultonborough.....S.
-E.....Greenland.....S.
-E.....Plymouth.....S.

S.

-E.....Hampton.....S.
-E.....Plymouth.....S.
-E.....Coccord.....S.
-E.....Sandown.....S.
-E.....Colebrook.....S.
-E.....Enfield.....S.
-E.....Hemiker.....S.
-E.....Hillsborough Bridge.....S.
-E.....Derry.....S.
-E.....Concord.....S.
-E.....East Salisbury, Mass.....S.
-E.....Claremont.....S.

T.

-E.....Dover.....S.
-E.....Derry.....S.
-E.....Brookline.....S.
-E.....Gilford Village.....S.
-E.....Pittsburg.....S.
-E.....Marlow.....S.
-D.....West Unity.....S.

W.

-E.....Ascutneyville, Vt.....S.
-E.....Barton Landing, Vt.....S.
-E.....Haverhill.....S.
-E.....Laconia.....S.
-E.....North Grantham.....S.
-E.....Bristol.....S.
-E.....Keene.....S.
-D.....Rumney.....S.
-P.....Milan.....S.
-P.....Winchester.....S.

Y.

-E.....Manchester.....S.

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MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTIETH SESSION

OF THE

NEW-HAMPSHIRE

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church,

HELD AT

PLYMOUTH, N. H.,

APRIL 9-14, 1879.

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1879.

How short, how busy, how successful a career! Full of promise, in the midst of life's great and holy warfare, and eager for its prosecution, he has suddenly fallen. Thanks be to God, his greatest victory was his last—his victory over death. He expressed himself as being abundantly "fortified" by dying grace. He signified his willingness to die or to live. He desired his weeping attendants to voice his big, immortal hope by singing—"Jesus, lover of my soul, Let me to thy bosom fly," &c. Surely the faith which allies one with God and the right in life, requires no recantation or amendment in death.

His funeral services were attended in Lisbon, in the presence of a large congregation, by his presiding elder, assisted by several members of the Conference. He sweetly sleeps in the country church-yard at Landaff, by the side of his dear children. The first resurrection awaits them all. A deeply afflicted widow, an infant daughter, sorrowing parents, an only sister, an only brother, a stricken church, a bereaved Conference, and a wide circle of beloved friends are plunged into lamentation and mourning. It is seldom that such profound and wide-spread grief is manifested on the death of so young a minister.

O may *we each*, through rich grace in Jesus Christ, when *our* life work is done, be enabled to have a record as spotless, and a death as peaceful and triumphant.

REV. ELEAZER SMITH.

Rev. Eleazer Smith was born in Marlow, N. H., in March, 1802, and died in Concord, N. H., in February, 1879, aged 76 years and 10 months. A good man, a highly esteemed and beloved member of the New-Hampshire Conference, has gone to his rest and reward. He was dedicated to God in infancy, by baptism in the Congregational Church. Converted at the age of twenty-three, he united with the M. E. Church at Lyndon, Vermont. From this period, his mind was drawn toward the gospel ministry as his life work. With him, duty was law. The call of God was recognized and responded to from his inmost soul, and he entered upon a profession to which he consecrated all his powers, and continued faithful therein for more than half a century. Never having had, in early life, the advantages of a thorough education, he conscientiously labored as a student that he might be the better fitted for the prosecution of his chosen work.

His first sermon was from this text—"The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance." And this was the key note of all his subsequent life. The goodness of God constrained him, permeated his whole spiritual nature, and out of this grew a love for souls, so ardent and intense that his efforts for their salvation were crowned with abundant success. At that time, what is now the New-Hampshire Conference, rich in membership and material prosperity, was but a feeble branch of the New-England Conference. He was received on trial into this Conference at Lynn, Mass., in 1828. In 1830, he was ordained deacon by Bishop Hedding, at Barre, Vermont,

and in 1832 was ordained elder by Bishop Roberts, at Lyndon, Vermont. During the term of his ministry, he filled the following appointments: in 1828, St. Johnsbury, Vermont; '29, and '30, Sutton and Burke, Vt.; '31, Lyndon, Vt.; '32 and '33, Canville, Vt., '34, Portsmouth; '35 and '36, Great Falls; '37, Dover; '38 and '39, Montpelier, Vt.; '40, Chelsea, Vt.; '41 and '42, Claremont; '43, Hanover; '44, Concord; from '46 to '55, he was chaplain to the New-Hampshire State Prison; in '55, he was stationed at Fisherville; '56, Epping; '57 and '58, Salmon Falls; '59 and '60, East Salisbury, Mass.; '61 and '62, Greenland; '63, '64 and '65, South Newmarket; '66, '67 and '68, North Salem; '69 and '70, Raymond; '71, Goffstown, and from '72 to '77, was again chaplain to the New-Hampshire State Prison. In 1845 he was superannuated on account of ill health, but served as agent of the New-Hampshire Bible Society. During his first term of service as chaplain to the State Prison, he wrote a book entitled "Nine Years Among the Convicts," which passed through two editions and had a considerable circulation. In 1848, he represented his Conference at the General Conference at Pittsburg, Pa.

He was first married in 1825, to Miss Laura Way, of Marlow, who left to him two children—a daughter, wife of Rev. A. J. Church, D.D., of the Providence Conference, and a son bearing his own name, living in the West. His second marriage was with Mrs. Laura R. Tebbetts, of Lowell, Mass., who survives him with her two children—a son and a daughter. Bro. Smith was eminently a modest man; unassuming in manner, yet a genial, courteous and dignified gentleman. With rare conversational powers, his presence was an attraction, and his harmonious, symmetrical life exhibited the graces of the profession he adorned. He was a good preacher; his sermons evinced much painstaking in their preparation, and were logical, thoughtful, spiritual. More than most preachers, he illustrated his subject with appropriate scriptural quotations. Every point was made luminous by some well chosen text. His style was lucid and easy, his choice of words was chaste and scholarly, and his hearers were interested and instructed. We all remember the very interesting discourse delivered before this Conference at our last session, commemorative of the completion of the fifty years of his ministry, and a review of Methodism of the last half century, especially in New-England. As a citizen, he was universally esteemed and beloved for his modest simplicity of manners and his purity of character. As a preacher, he was earnest and faithful, as one has well said of him, "A loyal, royal Methodist minister, descended to us from the heroic age of our church." For many years he had been in feeble health, but he labored on with a zeal and energy that triumphed over physical weakness. His last sickness, pneumonia, was of short duration. From the first he was impressed that the time of his departure had come, and he was ready and anxious to hear the summons, "Child, your Father calls, come home." Surrounded by his wife and children, with the song of victory just dying on his ear, he feebly uttered, "Jesus coming," and peacefully breathed his last.