

VANT A

ble

Bible,

Hymnal or

ook of any kind

OR CALL ON

LEGG, AGENT,

BOOK ROOM,

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

OFFICIAL MINUTES
WILMINGTON
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

HELD IN

SALEM METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
POCOMOKE CITY, MARYLAND

MARCH 14-19, 1906

PRICE 25 CENTS

THE J. W. STOWELL PRINTING CO., FEDERALSBURG, MD.

MEMOIRS.

Edward Graham.

was born in Dorchester County, Maryland, in Seaford, Delaware, July 13th, 1905. by religious influences and quite early in ted with the Methodist Episcopal Church y 30th, 1879, he was married to Miss Anna and one daughter, both grown, are left to e was engaged in the Drug business in the e taking great interest in the local Church e occupying other official positions with great

preach the gospel, he responded cheerfully eptember, 1888, he closed out his business ppointment under the Presiding Elder, ew Church, Virginia. Here he labored d in the Spring of 1889 was admitted on d returned for another year to New Church. ocomoke Circuit. In 1891 to Powellville , 1894-95 Galestown Circuit, 1896-1900 ircuit. In the spring 1904 Roxana Circuit it was formed, and Brother Graham was on his work with his accustomed energy, an to fail, and upon the advice of his at Cambridge, Maryland, for treatment. nderwent a very delicate operation. He he close of the last session of Conference, o Seaford. At the Conference, in view of e that after a year's rest he might again asked for and was granted a supernumerary t times, and too weak to be much of his ul and spoke in a hopeful way about the o take it up again.

ing presence of his Saviour, and never a the Christ whom he had so faithfully e could say "for me to live is Christ, to family's sake, and that he might the unsearchable riches of the gospel of art when the summons came. Brother man that needeth not to be ashamed,"— nd the charges he served felt the touch of l were lifted into a higher and better

experience. Nothing a devoted wife could do for him was left undone. Night or day, every call from his sick bed was quickly answered but nothing could stay the coming of the last summons. On Saturday morning July 15th, funeral services were held at his home in Seaford, in charge of Rev. W. A. Wise, assisted by Rev. J. L. Johnson and the writer; after which his remains were taken to Church Creek, Md., and interred in the family burial lot.

"Servant of God, well done!
Rest from thy loved employ;
The battle fought, the victory won,
Enter thy Master's joy:
The voice at midnight came;
He started up to hear;
A mortal arrow pierced his frame;
He fell; but yet no fear.

The pains of death are past,
Labor and sorrow cease;
And, life's long warfare closed at last,
His soul is found in peace,
Soldier of Christ, well Done!
Praise be thy new employ!
And while eternal ages run,
Rest in thy Saviour's joy."

P. H. RAWLINS.

Rev. Robert Washington Todd.

Robert Washington Todd was born near Vernon, Delaware, July 31st, 1831, and died in Baltimore City January 28th, 1906. He was descended from rugged Scotch stock; and carried through his long life many of the sterling qualities of that conscientious and robust people. Concerning his parents, Nathan and Sarah Todd, he has left this most reverent and touching tribute, in the dedication of his volume on the "Methodism of the Peninsula."

"To the memory of a father, whose life was the embodiment of industry, frugality, temperance, honor and devotion to truth and God; who hated shams; who loved mercy, and whose highest wish for his son was that he might be good and useful. To a mother, refined, modest, beautiful, whose life was a benediction, who made home sweet and attractive, who walked the shining way, and led thither the wayward feet of her child; whose memory still blooms fresh and fragrant from a grave, where almost two score years ago fell the tears of a bereaved boy in his first great sorrow; who now enrobed and crowned, are waiting on the farther shore." Out of the hallowing of such a home influence, it is no wonder that there came forth an ardent, high-souled, transparent and genial man.

The school advantages of his native county were, at that early day, very limited; but he quickly mastered what they afforded, and in 1850 entered

Dickinson College; where his natural ability and great hunger for learning, enabled him to crowd the work of two years into one. Returning home he was, for a brief period engaged in teaching in Queen Anne's County.

When about fifteen years of age he was converted at Chilton's Woods Camp-meeting, and gave his bright young life at once to the Church, and to preparation for the ministry.

In 1853 he joined the Philadelphia Conference, and was sent as Junior Preacher to Dover Circuit. He records the experience of great fear and trembling with which he entered upon his ministry in that place. Here commenced a long and eventful career, which is but poorly and inadequately outlined in the following dates and references. In 1854 he was stationed at Easton; 1855, Denton; 1856, Kent Island; 1857-8, Camden; 1859, St George's, and 1860, Cambridge. In 1861 severe bronchial trouble obliged him to take a supernumerary relation. During those years of residence at Denton, he was however, busy about his Master's work, superintending Sunday Schools, leading classes and frequently preaching. In 1864 he was elected a delegate to the memorable Maryland Constitutional Convention; and subsequently served as Register of Wills for the county. In 1870 he returned to the effective ranks, and was stationed at Laurel; 1871-2 St. Paul's, Wilmington; 1873, Rehoboth; 1874, Felton; 1875-6, Easton, 1877-8, Millington, 1879-82, Presiding Elder of Dover District; 1883-4, North East; 1885-7, Snow Hill; 1888-9, Chestertown; 1890-1, Greensboro; 1892, Editor of Conference Herald; 1894, Princess Anne; 1895-98, Agent of the Maryland Bible Society, in which office he accomplished valuable results. Returning once more to the Pastorate in 1899-1900, he served Mt. Pleasant charge. In 1901 he was sent to Hopewell, Cecil County, Md., which proved to be his last appointment. In December 1903, increasing debility obliged him to resign his work. Very tenderly he speaks of the people among whom he ended his itinerant toils.

"My several flocks have been pleasant and kindly; none more so than my last. Dear old Hopewell, "So near to the hovering skies above our Peninsula hills." He removed to Elkton where his presence was a benediction and finally to Baltimore, where the messenger from Heaven found him ready for flight, on that tranquil Sabbath eve. Lingered behind him in great sorrow are his devoted widow, Mrs. Alice Crawford Todd with four daughters, Mrs. William Davis, Mrs. William McCune, Mrs. George W. McCormick and Miss Mary C. Todd; and three sons, Robert M., Prof. John W. and Dr. George Todd, who were devoted to him in life, and who now reverence and honor his memory.

Brother Todd was a man of marked and impressive personality. Nature had endowed him with that gracious combination of qualities which gave him an honored place and a warm welcome among men. He had the genius of friendship, and moved among his associates with a wealth of affection, a frankness of conduct, and a courtliness of bearing which won all hearts. He was a rare conversationalist, sunny, affable and informing; a counsellor with wise ability to advise, and a strong, true soul, that dwelled "above the fog," in clear integrity of purpose. He had also remarkable capacity for work, in

mental ability and great hunger for learning, two years into one. Returning home he was converted at Chilton's Woods Camp, and came at once to the Church, and to prepara-

phia Conference, and was sent as Junior. He records the experience of great fear and upon his ministry in that place. Here commenced which is but poorly and inadequately out-looked. In 1854 he was stationed at Easton; 1857-8, Camden; 1859, St George's, and bronchial trouble obliged him to take a leave of absence for those years of residence at Denton, he was superintendent of Sunday Schools, leading in 1864 he was elected a delegate to the General Conference; and subsequently served as a delegate. In 1870 he returned to the effective ranks, at St. Paul's, Wilmington; 1873, Rebooth; 1874, Millington, 1879-82, Presiding Elder of the Conference; 1885-7, Snow Hill; 1888-9, Chestertown; 1890-4, Conference Herald; 1894, Princess Anne; 1895-7, Society, in which office he accomplished more to the Pastorale in 1899-1900, he served as pastor at Hopewell, Cecil County, Md., and in that position. In December 1903, increasing work. Very tenderly he speaks of the arduous toils.

pleasant and kindly; none more so than my mind to the hovering skies above our Peninsula where his presence was a benediction and messenger from Heaven found him ready for departure. Lingered behind him in great sorrow Crawford Todd with four daughters, Mrs. Anne, Mrs. George W. McCormick and Miss Elizabeth M., Prof. John W. and Dr. George Todd, who now reverence and honor his memory. He was a marked and impressive personality. Nature's combination of qualities which gave him a place among men. He had the genius of an associate with a wealth of affection, a calmness of bearing which won all hearts. He was affable and informing; a counsellor with a true soul, that dwelled "above the fog," and also remarkable capacity for work, in

view of the physical disabilities which attended him throughout his entire career. He says, sadly, "I have been handicapped by feebleness, and compelled to toil through my itinerant course against high head winds and sweeping adverse tides." Spite of it all, he was a busy man, who took into his heart the problems of the hour, wrought at them with a large conscience and a hero's initiative, and yet, like many another stalwart character, he also carried about with him a perennial humor, which played on the surfaces of his life, to beguile its weariness and relieve its tension. His genius was versatile. He seemed to know how to do many things well. He was poet, historian, logician and editor; emotional yet practical; idealist, yet able to plod, and do the round of little duties with diligence. Indeed "The elements were so mixed in him that Nature might stand up and say to all the world, "This was a man."

For many years he was active and prominent in the business of the Conference. He loved our Methodism, had radical convictions as to her true mission, and was not afraid to avow them in the arena of Conference debate. Such a defender of the faith, naturally came to positions of responsibility. In important appointments he proved himself zealous, progressive and successful. As a Presiding Elder he was genial, judicial and unselfish. As a member of the Board of Stewards, as a leading spirit in our Historical Society and in other official relations, he was a wise burden-bearer, and an inspiration to his brethren.

He was twice elected Reserve Delegate to the General Conference, and was honored with Degree of Doctor of Divinity from Dickinson College.

The Wilmington Conference Academy had its real birth in a resolution offered by him in the Peninsula Methodist Convention held in Smyrna in 1870; its adoption having created a Committee to consider ways and means, and to receive propositions for the location of a first class Academy. After the organization of the Institution, he served for years as one of its Trustees, and gave substantial aid in its many struggles.

As a member of the Constitutional Convention of Maryland, in the dark days of 1864, he threw himself with splendid courage into the proposal to provide a new educational system, and also to give emancipation to the slaves of the State. The history of that epoch-making session, will show that his influence was marked in the securing of those results. Truly, with all his might, it may be said, that "He served his generation."

Crowning all his other graces, Dr. Todd was a confident, prayerful, joyous child of God. He held to the witness of the spirit in every day consciousness, and built his soul house on the Rock of Ages. Although of a somewhat critical type of intellect, and interested in all the recent phases of theological unrest, his faith rode serenely at anchor in the old Verities. And there was a quality of childlike simplicity in his statements of Christian experience, which bore evidence of familiarity with the deep things of God. He was an example of the believers in patience, good cheer, and great-hearted acceptance of weakness and suffering.

He was also, an able preacher of the Gospel, diligently searching out the

hidden significance of his texts; with pen in hand, carefully constructing his discourse, and writing and rewriting with tireless industry, that each sentence and climax might win men for his Lord. In the pulpit he was fluent, reverent, unctuous and magnetic. He had his raptures, when his soul took fire and expressed itself in remarkable strains of pathos and rhetoric. Extensive revivals attended his ministry. Especially in sermon power at Camp-meeting, his message swept over men like a trumpet blast from the skies. Many yet remain, who never forget the authority and urgency of his pleading. And there are members of this Conference, who will cherish him in grateful memory as having led them to the Sinners' Friend.

A most effective adjunct to his ministerial efficiency was his power of song. God had given him a voice of mellow and persuasive tone. And he sang the Gospel through all the years of his life; sang it over penitents; sang it in the bosom of his family; sang it in his strength, and in his brokenness. No strange land of captivity ever found him with his harp unstrung. It was his weapon against trials and tears. He fought his tribulations with a Doxology. He sang on into the night and stirred "the valley and the shadow" with his melodies unto the Lord. He is singing yet, in "the Choir Invisible."

The old life long sparkle and sprightliness followed him into the months of his increasing weakness. No complaint or word of bitterness fell from his lips. He was more than patient. He was heroic, and superior, through grace, to all his ills. Although "halting like Jacob upon his staff," he smiled to see the breaking of the bough; "Knowing he had wings."

During those shut in days, he clung more fondly than ever to his Bible. Visitors found him almost constantly pouring over its treasures and revelling in its promises and prospects. He seemed to walk in intimate companionship with its great writers. It will be remembered that the last prose contribution he made to the "Peninsula Methodist" was an article entitled "On Pauline Heights," in which he dwelled on such lofty themes as "the fellowship of the mystery" and "the unsearchable riches of Christ," and said "I do not expect or desire to understand all the problems of God's religion in this present state of existence. I shall die in my alphabet. But I want to spend eternity in the investigation of the glorious mysteries of Atoning love." In such high fellowship he came to his "evening and sunset star." There was no agony, no violence of departure. In the hush of that Sabbath night, he fell asleep with the peace of God upon him. Impressive funeral services were held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Wm. J. Davis, at Federalsburg, Md., in charge of Rev. Theodore F. Beauchamp. Addresses were made by Dr. Watt and the writer, after which, with the smile still on his face we laid him to rest on the brow of the hill nearby.

So drop the soldiers from the ranks of the King's army. But there is reunion beyond.

"On the earth the broken arcs,
"In the heaven the perfect round."

T. E. MARTINDALE.

R
nie La
Delaw
Sh
Method
then e
T
verted
herself
her th
she wa
a reviv
A
to Geo
to the
and th
during
would
was pe
need b
served
F
was no
experi
ings,
and wh
S
had bi
the bl
S
around
was sh
her in
one wh
B
mons
those
the su
S
April
death
was st
S