

John H. Vincent.

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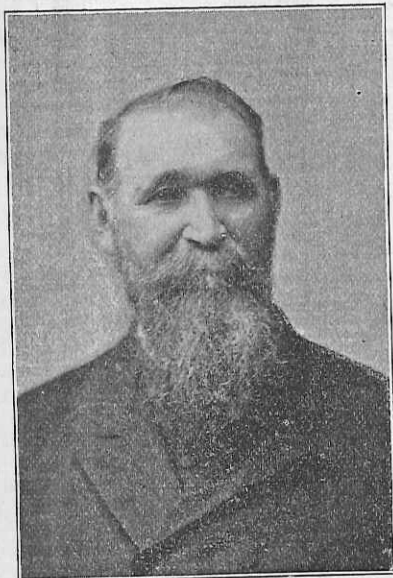
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MEMOIRS.

REV. JOSEPH REEDER KING.

1. The Man. The children of God occupy a special place in the divine mind. "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." They occupy a special place in the divine plan. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord. I go to prepare a place for you . . . I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."



Joseph Reeder King is one of that honored company. He was born in Dunns-town, Pa., March 2, 1832, converted at a camp meeting on the Jersey Shore Circuit August, 1848, and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in Newberry. His school education was that of the common schools. But he was a close student of the Bible, Methodism, and history. He rendered very valuable aid to the historian of the famous "West Branch Valley."

Brother King was twice married—April 1, 1861, to Julia Ann Hewit, of Penfield, Pa.; his second wife was Anna A. Ward, of Pine Grove Mills, Pa., who survives him, also two children—one daughter, Mrs. Edgar McClosky, of Clearfield, Pa., and one son, Norman, thirteen years old.

As a preacher he was strong and forcible, sometimes "eloquent in presenting the truths of the Gospel." He was a man of deep convictions, and uncompromising in their defense. Socially he was a most genial and helpful companion—a brother. No one knew him but to love him. All this was the manifestation of a great and generous heart.

His religious experience was clear and positive—rich in the witness of the Holy Spirit with his spirit that he was born of God, adopted into the family of our heavenly Father. Many and precious were his leadings out by the Good Shepherd into the green pastures and beside the still waters. His stronghold was the throne of grace; here he had power with God and with men. People testify to great blessings through his prayers.

2. His Work. Brother King entered the itinerancy in 1853. James Sanks, the Presiding Elder, assigned him to the Caledonia Circuit. In 1859 he was admitted to the East Baltimore Conference, and in 1861 ordained deacon by Bishop Simpson. His charges were: 1859, Caledonia; 1860-61, Karthaus; 1862, Shippen; 1863-64, Beaver Meadow; 1865-66, Concord; 1867-68, McConnellsburg; 1869-70, Milroy;

1871-75, supernumerary; 1876, Pine Creek; 1877-78, Congress Hill; 1879-80, Port Matilda; 1881-82, Trevorton; 1883-84, Milroy; 1885-87, Ray's Hill; 1888-91, Manor Hill; 1892-93, Beach Haven; 1894-95, Benton.

In 1886 Brother King organized the Crystal Springs Camp Meeting Association. The chief characteristic of this camp meeting is the large number of conversions. Multitudes think of this place as the "hallowed spot where they were first forgiven." The Board of Trustees pay a very fitting tribute to the worth of Brother King. He was a generous friend of the poor, exalting the humble and encouraging the weak. Those who sought counsel in time of doubt never turned to him in vain. His ministry was often blessed with revivals. In 1867, on the McConnellsburg Charge, he conducted a great and precious revival that many will remember for years to come. Two members of this Conference were converted and joined the Church during this revival. One of them was Brother W. H. Stevens, the other the writer.

3. The Victory. Every good success is victory. In his personal experience Brother King had many and great victories over temptations and the world. In his ministry he was more than conqueror in turning men "from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God," and in edifying them that believed. But his greatest victory of which we know was gained April 11, 1895, at Benton, Pa. In the morning he was preparing an Easter sermon. About eight o'clock he was attacked by a severe pain in the head. His wife and others watched with him until near noon, when he suddenly vanished out of their sight.

A memorial service was held in the Benton Methodist Church on Easter Sunday, Brothers Creveling, Tubbs, Chilcote, and N. B. Smith conducting the services. On Monday the body was taken to Dunns-town, Pa., where the funeral services were conducted, in the Methodist Episcopal church, by Dr. G. D. Penepacker. Dr. E. J. Gray delivered the principal address. Other brethren of the Conference were present and took part in the services—M. C. Piper, S. B. Evans, J. F. Kerlin, G. M. Frownfelter, N. H. Schenck, and Levi Heck. The body was buried in the family lot.

Brother King is no longer of us. He has joined that immortal host who "shall live on when stars grow dim with age," who ever become richer in the experience of the things God has laid up for the faithful; who ever grow greater in the glorious progress of the just made perfect. But it is impossible to add splendor to the sun, neither can we eulogize a glorified soul. Let him shine on forever.

J. D. W. DEAVOR.

REV. FRANKLIN MOORE WELSH.

Rev. Franklin Moore Welsh was born August 17, 1859, in Frederica, Del. We learn also that he was born again at the age of sixteen years, in the old Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal church in Philadelphia, on a memorable stormy evening under the ministry of the Rev. J. J. Timanus.

He was born and reared in the midst of Christian influence, having godly and devoted parents.

They removed from Frederica, Del., to Philadelphia when the subject of this memoir was but six years of age.

He was a remarkable student, graduating from the public schools of Philadelphia at the age of thirteen. He entered Dickinson College at the age of twenty-five years, and graduated in 1888.

One who knew him best said, "It seemed his greatest delight was in studying his books."

Had his physical strength been commensurate with his mental accomplishments he might have stood among the highest in the ranks of the heralds of the cross.

His brief ministerial work was everywhere acceptable and fruitful.

His appointments were as follows: Chester, Easton; Eighth Avenue, Altoona; Roaring Spring; Second Church, Tyrone; Princess Street, York, and Trevorton.



While serving Roaring Spring appointment he was united in marriage with Minnie M. Hedding, of Bedford, Pa., on the 29th day of September, 1891, Rev. M. L. Smyser conducting the ceremony in the Methodist Episcopal church of Bedford, Pa.

Here his widow now lives in saddest memory of one who, while with her, "was less a denizen of earth than an inhabitant of heaven."

May the Holy Comforter reside with her in the assurance of seeing yet more of his beautiful and transparent character, which is now expanding in excellency and usefulness in the Father's house on high!

While the Danville District Epworth League Convention was in session in the First Church of Shamokin, on June 1, a telegram reached us saying, "F. M. Welsh, our pastor, died this morning."

And as we suspended all Convention matters to make an appeal to the power and grace of the Eternal on behalf of his stricken widow and all sorrowing friends, angels seemed to gather around and to whisper, "Your friend and fellow-laborer

in God's great vineyard is not dead; we have no such word in heaven; thy brother lives and serves in higher realms and purer spheres."

Several brethren and sisters of the Convention proceeded next day to Trevorton, where, amid a congregation that had been captured by his few months' pastorate, deeply impressive and touching services were conducted by his Presiding Elder, the Rev. Dr. Yocum.

Several of the ministerial brethren, seemingly specially inspired, offered touching words upon the subject of our loss and heaven's gain.

Newly did we appreciate the poet's words:

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

One of the members of the Trevorton Charge informed us that he preached his last sermon in their church on the evening of May 12, from Paul's words, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." He delivered his discourse with earnestness and power. He was particularly interested in young men, and was preparing three sermons for them especially, when his pen dropped from his hand, never again to be taken up.

Dr. Yocum and Rev. W. P. Shriner accompanied his widow and friends with his body to Frederica, Del., where, near the place of his birth, he was laid to rest on June 4, 1895, in glorious hope of resurrection unto eternal life.

W. V. GANOE.

REV. JOSHUA PIERCE BOBB.

Brother Bobb was born near Mechanicsburg, Pa., November 23, 1846. He early developed a taste for books, and while but a boy in years was installed as teacher of a public school. February 5, 1865, he notes in his diary as a date

"never to be forgotten," as he then "through faith found peace in Jesus."

From this time forth the Bible was to him "the book of books," and Christ his "all in all." His craving for knowledge led him to enter Dickinson College, from which he graduated with first honors in 1870, and was admitted on trial to the Central Pennsylvania Conference the same year.

After serving a year on Salladasburg Charge he was made a professor in Pennington Seminary, where he taught five years, the last three as vice principal. Failing health compelled him to resign this position, and he traveled through Europe and visited the Holy Land. Having been tendered a chair in one of our Western colleges he entered upon a special course at Frankfort, Germany, but, finding he was overtaxing his strength, returned to this country and accepted a less exacting position in High Forest Seminary, High Forest, Minn. Here he met and married Miss Agnes M. Crumb, who remained his devoted companion to the time of his death. He was constantly pushing out on lines of study beyond those required by the duties of his position, and the brilliancy of intellect he displayed procured for him the degree of Ph.D. from Illinois Wesleyan University, and that of LL.D. from the National University, Chicago. Ill health again compelled him to abandon literary work, and for several years he lived on a farm near Maywood, Neb., and here, as elsewhere, his gentlemanly deportment and Christlike life won for him the highest esteem. While laboring in the fields, amid the excessive heat of the summer, he was overcome, and softening of the brain ensued. His death occurred August 30, 1895. The faithful wife, two daughters, and a son survive him. He was buried from his home near Maywood, Neb., Rev. J. W. Thomas, pastor of the charge, conducting the funeral service and paying a well-deserved tribute to his memory.



"As in the heavens the urns divine
Of golden light forever shine;
Though clouds may darken, storms may rage,
They still shine on from age to age;
So, through the ocean tide of years,
The memory of the just appears;
So, through the tempest and the gloom,
The good man's virtues light the tomb."

W. M. FRYINGER.