

Peninsula Methodist.

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Editor.

FOR CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH.

J. MILLER THOMAS
Associate Editor.

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.
SINGLE NOS. 3 CENTS.

THE VALLEY OF REST.

BY AMANDA ELIZABETH DENNIS.

There's a beautiful vision that wakes with the day,
And lives through the dreams of the night,
Of a wonderful valley that lies far away,
Shut in from the tempest's despite;
A beautiful valley with cool, limpid streams,
And meadows in emerald dress;
And down in the silence of unbroken dreams,
I call it the Valley of Rest.

And this beautiful valley fades never away:
Fades never its wonderful sheen!
For the light of a marvelous sun always
Streams down o'er its meadows of green.
Not heat of the summer—nor tempest—nor
cold—

Nor aught can its sweetness molest;
For the "Peace of God" like a river of gold
Flows on through the Valley of Rest!

In this beautiful valley there's fulness of joy,
Nor hunger—nor thirst any more!
And the passions of earth may not dim,
Nor alloy

Its bliss with the pain gone before.
O'er the light of its day falls no shadow of
night,
Falls no cloud o'er its fair tranquil breast:
For the "Love of God" like a river of light
Flows on through the Valley of Rest!

In this Valley of Rest there comes, never
more,

The breaking of love-welded bands—
The longing of heart and the sorrowing sore
For the falling away of hands.
For the Father pours softly his oil and his
balm

On grief-wounded spirit and breast—
And, lies in the bliss of an untroubled calm,
The beautiful Valley of Rest.

In the beautiful Valley of Rest I bide!
What doth it matter, the tempest o'er-past,
The muttering wrath of the crossed-over tide!
I am happy and safe at the last!
Under the wings of the Saviour, I fold
My wings—and my hands on his breast;
And thus find peace by the rivers of gold
In the beautiful Valley of Rest.

—Methodist Protestant.

Lay Conference Proceedings.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9.

The Lay Electoral Conference was called to order at 10 A. M., by Dr. R. J. Price of Vienna, Md., the secretary of the previous conference. The morning was consumed in organization with the following result of election of officers: President, H. C. Dodson, Easton; Secretary, Dr. R. J. Price, Vienna; Assistant Secretary, W. H. Dashiell, Salisbury.

The following nominations were made for the two lay delegates to the General Conference: Joseph Pyle, J. E. Ellegood, L. S. Melson, J. Miller Thomas, Eli Saulsbury, H. P. Cannon, J. Taylor Gause, H. C. Dodson, J. S. Willis, Dr. A. E. Sudler, Dr. R. J. Price, J. T. Matthews, W. H. Dashiell.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10.

This morning's session of the Wilmington M. E. Lay Conference, began at 9.35 o'clock. H. C. Dodson, presiding; after a short prayer service, conducted by Joseph Pyle, Professor Gooding made a 15 minutes' address in the interest of the Conference Academy. The following report of the committee on resolutions was adopted:

Resolved, That this electoral conference heartily endorse the plan of an Endowment fund for worn-out preachers, widows and orphans, adopted by the Wilmington Conference one year ago, and we call upon our people to make liberal subscriptions and bequests to that most worthy object, and we pledge ourselves to give it material assistance.

Inasmuch as we have heard from Rev. S. W. Thomas and Rev. W. Swindells, a committee of the managers of the Methodist Episcopal hospital in Philadelphia, showing the necessity of such an institution and its proposed advantages to the people of our church, and others residing within the bounds of this conference, and inasmuch as the late Dr. Scott Ste-

art of Philadelphia, made the Methodist Episcopal Church his residuary legatee for the purpose of assisting in the founding and maintaining of a Methodist Episcopal hospital, the sum of which now amounts to \$250,000, and inasmuch as by chartered organization and otherwise all the necessary steps have been taken to secure such results; therefore.

Resolved, That we unite with our common Methodism in this work, and commend the above enterprise to the liberality of the members of the church within the bounds of the Wilmington Conference.

In view of the long and faithful service rendered to the Methodist Episcopal Church by our lamented brother, Francis Asbury Ellis, one of the most prominent and highly respected laymen of the Wilmington Conference, this electoral conference deem it their duty to place upon record this memorial tribute: Brother Ellis was born near Turner's creek, Kent county, Md., December 29th, 1806, and died in Elkton, November 2d, 1887. Up to his 43d year, he was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church. During a gracious revival in the Elkton M. E. Church, in 1849, under the ministry of Rev. William H. Elliott, Bro. Ellis entered into a new religious experience, which was so clear and complete as to thoroughly revolutionize his character and life. He promptly identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for the 38 years of his subsequent life he demonstrated the strength and order of his devotion, to the interests of that fold of Christ, by responding to every call of duty and showing himself ready unto every good word and work. He was soon appointed a class-leader and continued in that most responsible relation till called to his heavenly home. For several years he was a licensed local preacher. From the origin of the Conference Missionary Society, he was its president, and retained as such as long as he lived. He was for several years a member of the Conference Board of Church Extension, and president of its board of Education. In the last General Conference he was one of the two lay delegates representing the Wilmington Annual Conference in that highest council of the church, and rendered valuable service as such, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth; yea saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

Resolved, That the Wilmington Conference Academy is deserving of the support and patronage of the Methodists of this Peninsula, and that this lay conference heartily commend it to their favorable consideration.

WHEREAS, We regard the licensed traffic in intoxicating liquors as the prolific source from which springs most of the evils that curse our country to-day, and the most formidable foe that we have to combat with, therefore

Resolved, That we hail with delight the evidence progress in temperance work throughout the country, and we hereby extend a fraternal greeting to the workers in the temperance cause everywhere.

Resolved, That we have no compromise to offer the liquor traffic, nor will we accept of one from them; we have no right to perpetuate by license, high or low, that which is the enemy of all

righteousness and the destroyer of mankind; therefore, whatever be the means employed for the advancement of this cause, the final objective point is not license high or low, nor regulation of any sort whatever, but in prohibition, by law, of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drink. Believing that a Christian man's first duty is to his God, and that his moral obligation should lead him to advance this great cause of temperance in every way, and while we do not presume to dictate to any man his political affiliation, we do express our unqualified opinion that Christian temperance men should not permit themselves to be controlled by party organizations that are managed in the interest of or run by the liquor traffic. We furthermore pledge ourselves to the enforcement of all such laws as have for their object the extermination of this iniquitous traffic.

Resolved, Among the various organizations that are aiding the church in this great cause we recognize as of first importance the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and we heartily pledge to them our sympathy and support.

The generous donations for the establishment of a hospital in the city of Wilmington, by the wife of our brother, J. T. Gause, and other Methodists of Wilmington merit and receive our special commendation. When our people whom God hath blessed with this world's goods, use them with a wise and loving reference to the needs of the poor and the suffering, they make to themselves "friends of the mammon of unrighteousness," and may receive for their satisfaction the words of the Lord Jesus: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

A resolution, lauding the PENINSULA METHODIST, and commending it to the general patronage, was adopted.

The following, which was presented by the same committee, was rejected by a vote of 35 to 28:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this lay conference, that direct negotiations between pastors and churches in advance of the making of the appointments by the bishops, are contrary to the spirit of our itinerant ministry, and subversive of our ecclesiastical polity, and as such should be discouraged by our bishops, pastors and people.

The resolution was rejected after a spirited discussion, during which it was introduced, and after discussing his plan for establishing a Welsh Methodist Episcopal church at Utica, N. Y., was given \$15.25 for that purpose.

Resolutions thanking citizens of Wilmington for the hospitable entertainment, and thanking the president and secretary for so faithful a performance of their duties were adopted.

A collection amounting to about \$5 was taken for James Wood, sexton of Union Church.

At 11.30 o'clock the lay conference vacated the lecture room, and went upstairs to exchange greeting with the clerical conference. Returning a half hour later, the lay conference took a recess until 2 p. m.

At 2 P. M. the Conference again assembled, and after some routine business, spent over an hour in devotional exercises, and adjourned *sine die* about 4 P. M.

Appointments of the Wilmington M. E. Conference.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT.

W. L. S. MURRAY, P. E.

Bethel & Glasgow, Asbury Burke.
Charlestown, T. B. Hunter.
Cherry Hill & Union, T. A. H. O'Brien.
Chesapeake City, E. H. Nelson.
Chester, J. W. Hammersley.
Christiana, B. F. Price.
Claymont, To be supplied.
Delaware City, C. F. Sheppard.
Elk Neck, E. H. Miller.
Elkton & Crouch's, Charles Hill.
Hookessin & Ebenezer, Julius Dodd.
Hopewell, John Jones.
Mt. Lebanon & Union, T. W. Given.
Mt. Pleasant & Edgemoor, J. T. VauBurkalow.
Newark & Wesley, N. M. Browne.
New Castle, E. L. Hubbard.
Newport, Stanton & Marshalton, J. D. C. Graves.
Hanna, and one to be supplied, H. A. Graves.

North East, J. B. Quigg.
Port Deposit, J. P. Otis.
Red Lion & Kirkwood, G. S. Walton.
Red Lion, Isaac Jewell.
Rowlandville & Mt. Pleasant, to be supplied by T. F. McKinsey.

St. Georges & Summit, John Warthman.

Wilmington:—
Asbury, J. E. Bryan.
Brandywine, C. A. Grice.
Epworth, D. H. Corkran.
Grace, Jacob Todd.
Madeley, H. W. Ewing.
Mt. Salem, W. E. Avery.
St. Paul's & Kingswood, L. E. Barrett, one to be supplied, W. L. White.
Scott, V. S. Collins.
Swedish Mission, K. R. Hartwig.
Union, Adam Stengle.
Wesley, W. G. Koons.
Zion, E. H. Hynson.
W. P. Taylor, J. W. Geisler, W. R. Sears, J. R. Todd, left without appointments to attend our schools.

EASTON DISTRICT.

JOHN FRANCE, P. E.

Appoquinimink, G. S. Conoway.
Bayside & Tilghman, J. M. Lindale.
Cecilton, E. C. Atkins.
Centreville, C. A. Hill.
Chesterdown, R. W. Todd.
Church Hill, J. A. Arters.
Crumpton, To be supplied.
Easton, W. W. Wilson.
Galena, I. G. Fosnocht.
Greensboro, W. H. Hutchin.
Hillsboro, G. W. Townsend.
Ingleside, Albert Chandler.
Kent Island, Joseph Robinson.
Kings Creek, J. A. Brindle.
Kenton, W. W. Sharp.
Marydel, W. M. Warner.
Masseys, To be supplied by D. Gollie.
Middletown, R. H. Adams.
Millington, R. H. Stephenson.
Odessa, R. C. Jones.
Oxford, E. P. Roberts.
Pomona, J. D. Reese.
Queenstown, G. T. Alderson.
Rock Hall, Newton McQuay.
Royal Oak, W. R. Mowbray.
St. Michaels, W. B. Walton.
Sassafras, William Sheers.
Smyrna, W. S. Robinson.
Smyrna Circuit, E. E. White.
Still Pond, J. D. Rigg.
Sudlersville, T. H. Haynes.
Talbot, To be supplied.
Townsend, S. M. Morgan.
Trappe, A. P. Prettyman.
Wye, G. P. Smith.

DOVER DISTRICT.

J. A. B. WILSON, P. E.

Beckwith's, W. M. Green.
Bridgeville, J. H. Howard.
Burrsville, To be supplied.
Cambridge, Alfred Smith.
Camden, P. H. Rawlins.
Cannon's, W. T. Valiant.
Church Creek, J. T. Prouse.
Crapo, D. F. McPaul.
Dorchester circuit, to be supplied by Baynard Wheatley.
Denton, I. N. Foreman.
Dover, T. E. Terry.

East New Market, L. W. Layfield.
Ellendale, Robert Roe.
Elliott's Island, J. M. Collins.
Farmington, G. W. Wilcox.
Federalburg, G. W. Burke.
Felton, E. C. Macnicol.
Frederica, J. H. Caldwell.
Galestown, Wilmer Jaggard.
Georgetown, J. D. Kemp.
Greenwood, F. M. Morgan.
Harrington, S. J. Morris.
Harbeson, to be supplied by W. N. Conway.
Hoopers Island, C. P. Swain.
Houston, James Carroll.
Hurlock, R. J. Coursey.
Leipsic, James Conner.
Lewes, H. S. Thompson.
Lincoln, J. L. Wood.
Magnolia, S. T. Gardner.
Milford, J. H. Willey.
Millsboro, W. F. Dawson.
Milton, T. R. Creamer.
Nassau, Edward Davis.
Potters' Landing, W. W. Redman.
Preston, L. P. Corkran.
Seaford, W. J. Duhadway.
Taylor's Island, to be supplied by G. W. Bounds.

Vienna, J. M. Mitchell.
Woodside, to be supplied by E. S. J. McAllister.
Wyoming, J. E. Kidney.

SALISBURY DISTRICT.

T. O. AYRES, P. E.

Annemessex, W. R. McFarlane.
Asbury, W. F. Corkran.
Berlin, C. T. Wyatt.
Bethel, W. B. Gregg.
Bishopville, F. F. Carpenter.
Crisfield, F. C. Mosler.
Deals Island, B. C. Warren.
Delmar, C. S. Baker.
Fairmount, C. W. Prettyman.
Frankford, S. W. Pilchard.
Fruitland, Z. H. Webster.
Girdle Tree, Warren Burr.
Gumboro, F. J. Cochran.
Hollands Island, W. B. Guthrie.
Laurel, J. O. Sypherd.
Mt. Vernon, C. J. Hammitt.
Nanticoke, D. F. Waddell.
Newark, T. H. Harding.
Parsonburg, G. W. Bowman.
Pocomoke Circuit, J. W. Gray.
Pocomoke City, A. S. Mowbray.
Powellville, To be supplied by L. T. Melaine.
Princess Anne, W. P. Compton.
Quantico, W. W. Johnson.
Roxana, A. T. Melvin.
Salisbury, T. E. Martindale.
Selbyville, To be supplied.
Sharptown, E. H. Derrickson.
Shortly, W. W. Chaires.
Snow Hill, Robert Watt.
Somerset, To be supplied by John Tyler.
Stockton, C. H. Williams.
St. Peters, E. S. Mace.
Westover, J. F. Anderson.

VIRGINIA DISTRICT.

A. D. DAVIS, P. E.

Accomac & Northampton, to be supplied by J. F. Ayres.
Cape Charles City, W. A. Wise.
Chincoteague, R. I. Watkins.
Hallwood, G. E. Wood.
New Church, to be supplied by W. K. Galloway.
Quancock, J. W. Easley.
Parksley, H. S. Dulaney.
Smith's Island, W. L. P. Bowen.
Tangier, G. L. Hardesty.

The following changes were made in the situation of churches on Dover District:—Canterbury was taken from Magnolia, and Viola from Felton, and put to Woodside Circuit; Seward's and Blackwater from Dorchester to Church Creek; Salem from E. New Market to Vienna; Cabin Creek from Hurlock's to E. New Market; St. Paul's from Federalburg to Hurlock's; Friendship from Preston to Federalburg. Preston is to take in Medford's Wharf as a regular preaching place.

Conference Proceedings.

We add to our last week's report of the first day's doings, as follows.

The names of the members of the several standing committees appointed, were:

Public Worship—W. L. S. Murray, Adam Stengle, J. E. Bryan, C. Hill, N. M. Browne.

Education—J. H. Willey, W. S. Robinson, J. P. Otis, T. E. Martindale, S. J. Morris, Dr. Sudler, Professor Reynolds, Dr. R. J. Price, W. H. Dashiell, J. T. Kenney.

Bible—E. S. Mace, J. M. Lindale, D. F. McFaul, T. B. Hunter, W. L. P. Bowen.

Sunday-School—J. W. Easley, L. E. Barrett, T. H. Harding, G. W. Townsend, Robert Roe.

Temperance—J. D. Kemp, A. Smith, W. B. Guthrie, L. W. Layfield, R. I. Watkins.

Women's Foreign Missionary Society—R. Watt, B. F. Price, I. G. Fuschicht, E. H. Hynson, W. K. Galloway.

Tracts—D. H. Corkran, E. E. White, J. Carroll, W. B. Gregg, W. L. P. Bowen.

Freedmen's Aid—S. J. Morris, I. Jewell, A. T. Melvin, W. T. Valiant, J. D. Reese.

Missionary Statistics—J. M. Collins, Julius Dodd, G. E. Wood, E. H. Derickson, J. H. Connelly.

Finance—C. A. Grice, R. K. Stephenson, V. S. Collins, G. W. Wilcox, L. A. C. Gerry, E. H. Nelson.

Address of Local Preachers—W. R. Mowbray, C. T. Wyatt, W. A. Wise, G. W. Bowman, P. A. Leatherby.

Post Office and Express—J. T. VanBurkalow, W. M. Green, W. W. Johnson, W. W. Sharp, R. I. Watkins.

Women's Home Missionary Society—J. Conner, N. McQuay, W. R. McFarlane, T. A. H. O'Brien, W. L. P. Bowen.

Clerical members of the Board of Stewards: C. W. Prettyman, Wilmington district; W. B. Walton, Easton district; P. H. Rawlins, Dover district; F. C. McSorley, Salisbury district; W. L. P. Bowen, Virginia district.

The Rev. W. G. Koons was named as Conference postmaster.

At 11 o'clock the Statistical reports were made, and referred to the proper committees.

Rev. Dr. W. A. Spencer, assistant secretary of the Board of Church Extension, made an address. He said, "Last year there were nearly 180,000 converted to Methodism. The board have requests for \$150,000 more than they have in the treasury; and even after the spring collections were returned from the conferences, there would still be a deficit of \$200,000. He then told of twenty young men who had gone West to work for the church for nothing more than their food and lodging, and preaching in sad churches; and said the board this year would ask of the Wilmington Conference \$4,000, of which \$2,800 will be used in the conference.

The Bishop announced that every afternoon from 2 until 5 o'clock, he would be closeted with the presiding elders, and must deny audience to every one for those three hours.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27th.

Conference convened at 8:30 A. M. Devotional exercises comprised the singing of a hymn, the reading of Romans V. by the bishop, and prayer by R. H. Adams.

In taking up the 20th question of general minutes, the bishop asked that each presiding elder, in giving his report, state in addition to the missionary collection, whether all the disciplinary collections had been taken up in their charges.

Presiding Elder W. L. S. Murray of Wilmington then made his report;

"At the close of last conference Claymont, Mount Lebanon, Rowlandsville, Mount Pleasant and Kingswood, were left to be supplied. J. N. Rawlings, William H. Hendrickson, Elin Kirk and W. L. White, local preachers, have

filled these places acceptably and with success. The Rev. W. R. Sears, stationed at Hopewell, resigned his charge September 9th last, to attend Drew Theological Seminary. This vacancy has been filled by Rev. John Jones, a traveling elder from the Primitive Methodist Church. His work has given great satisfaction. A memoir for Rev. Joseph Dare, who died last October, has been prepared by Rev. J. B. Quigg. Rev. W. E. Tompkinson was removed from Silverbrook, and sent to Hockessin. The latter charge has no parsonage, and, in consequence, Mr. Tompkinson is obliged to live in Wilmington. Notwithstanding many hindrances, every interest of the church has been faithfully served, and 49 persons have professed conversion."

Reference was made to the deaths of Francis A. Ellis, who had attended every session of Conference since its organization, Harry Nelson, and Rev. W. J. Grant.

"Children's-day" was generally observed with good results, but Good Tidings day did not meet with general favor, but was successfully observed at Grace Church. During the year, the following local preachers were licensed: W. T. Hammond, North East; Edwin V. Hinchliffe, Elkton; H. S. Budd, Grace Church, Wilmington. Mr. Hinchliffe is at Delaware College, and Mr. Budd at Dickinson College, preparing for the itinerancy."

Reference was made to the Woodlawn and Brandywine Summit camp meetings. At the former, there were 44 conversions, and at the latter 35. All the Sunday-schools in the district, except one, use the Berean leaf, and Methodist publications. Except a few mission schools, all are organized into missionary societies. Much good has been accomplished by the class meetings.

"The good effects of the local option law in Cecil county, are seen on every hand. New Castle county is under license law, the baneful effects of which are painfully apparent. Delaware intoxicants are shipped into Cecil county with false labels, and a constant effort is made outside the county, to make void the law within that county. While our pulpits give no uncertain sound concerning this licensed iniquity, many temperance people are active and outspoken against the liquor traffic. The strongest weapon recently brought to bear upon this evil was remonstrance. At the November term of court for New Castle county, through the voluntary efforts of certain public-spirited citizens, the judges readily granted a public hearing in open court, to all who were opposed to the giving of licenses. This wholesome innovation has been effectual in greatly reducing the number of licenses, and has spread consternation among the saloonists and liquor dealers. At that session, there were 128 applicants, 41 of whom were refused. At the term of court which closed a few days ago, there were 38 applicants, and only 12 licenses were granted. St. Georges has, perhaps, had the greatest triumph through remonstrances. About two years ago, in that town, there were two houses whose licenses were revoked mainly through the leadership of Rev. L. W. Layfield, and, notwithstanding repeated applications, the court has refused to grant them license. Great credit is due, and should be given to the press of this city, for the bold and decided stand it has taken in favor of good morals, by opposing the increase of saloons, and the granting of license to those who violate the provisions of the law, and also for the earnest efforts of the press in breaking up the gambling dens in our city." (The allusion to the work of the press of the city, in opposing gambling, and arraying itself against indiscriminate saloon licensing was greeted with rounds of applause by the members of Conference.)

"Cherry Hill, Chesapeake City, Hockessin and Ebenezer, Mount Salem,

Epworth, Union and Wesley have increased the salaries of their pastors \$100 each. Rowlandsville and Mount Pleasant gave no salaries last year, but will give \$125 this year. The salary of the pastor at Newport and Stanton has been increased \$150; New Castle, \$200."

During the year, \$281 were expended for furniture, for the Wilmington district parsonage. Captain Kelley advanced the money, and the several charges reimbursed him. On the parsonages at Bethel, Cherry Hill, Chester, Elk Neck, North East, Port Deposit, St. Georges, Delaware City, and Mount Salem, \$1,200 were expended. Christina paid \$100 on the parsonage debt; Claymont, \$125; New Castle, \$750; Rising Sun, \$800. Provision has been made for the remaining \$675. The parsonages at Chestertown and Newport were rebuilt; the former at a cost of \$600, and the latter at a cost of \$1,400. Church debts were paid as follows: Port Deposit, \$500; Brandywine, \$800; Epworth, \$100; St. Paul's, \$5,100; Scott, \$2,600. During N. M. Browne's pastorate, Scott Church paid its debt, increased all its benevolences, and in all, the church raised \$12,000. During the year the following churches were dedicated: Edge Moor, Wesley, Jones' Chapel, and Union Church at Marshallton. The last was dedicated last Sunday. A pastor has been asked for a church in Brandywine hundred, five miles north of Wilmington, which belongs to the public.

All benevolences have received due attention, and revival meetings have been held in every charge. During the year, there were 1,652 conversions.

Presiding Elder A. D. Davis then read the following report:

"Because of communications published in a secular paper in the early part of the year, evidently written with the design of prejudicing and embittering the people against us, and because of an uncalled for and unwise controversy, over the Fifth district the work of the Virginia district was greatly hindered. Another drawback was the lack of workers; and, in consequence, he was compelled to serve in the double capacity of presiding elder, and preacher and pastor. However, we have been blessed; and we are able to report that degree of progress, which we believe will place us at the head, and not that other appendage of our much-loved Wilmington Conference."

Accomac, having neither pastor nor money, did nothing, but has good prospects for the coming year. At Cape Charles City, the congregation is increasing, and a church is to be erected soon. For this purpose a donation of \$500 has been offered. Good work is being done on Chincoteague Island. E. F. Staats, who was assigned to Hallwood, was discouraged by reports that he had heard, and did not go there. Finally, the services of J. H. Connelly, a plucky local preacher, were secured. Bitter prejudice against the church existed, and, with the idea of driving him away, Mr. Connelly was assaulted one day, with eggs by a couple of Pittsville ruffians. The pastor would not be driven away, however, and is doing effective work. During his pastorate there, he has traveled 1,200 miles on foot, and has received only a trifle over \$200. The church at Onancock is strengthened numerically and spiritually, and is well organized. Under the pastorate of the Rev. W. K. Galloway of this city, there have been many conversions at Parksley, and the congregation has grown, and the collections have increased. Smith's Island is considered the banner appointment on the district. Much spiritual good has been done there, and the collections have increased 25 per cent over the previous year. Tangier Island is in a flourishing condition. In January the M. E. Church South at Read's wharf, was bought at a nominal price, and in it the Conference has the nucleus of a new charge in the upper

end of Northampton county.

"It has been a good year in improvements made, debts paid, souls converted, churches quickened, increased membership and benevolent collections and ship and every charge, except one, is on the roll of honor. For the future, we want a full supply of wise, industrious, courageous, self-sacrificing, talented, popular preachers on this district. For any other kind, there is no demand."

Bishop Foss congratulated the members of conference, on the admirable features of the statistical report. He had not heard anything so praiseworthy at any conference over which he had presided.

The Rev. W. L. S. Murray made the report of Treasurer, Alexander Kelley of the Centenary Fund. The amount of \$180 was reported in this treasury, and \$211.07 in the treasury of the Tract fund. The reports were adopted, and a check ordered to be drawn on the treasurer, for \$180 in favor of the steward's fund.

Rev. J. H. Caldwell, D. D., and John G. Baker, were re-elected trustees of the Centenary and Tract Funds.

The chair next called up the following class for admission to full connection: George W. Bowman, George E. Wood, Asbury Burke, William R. Mowbray, William W. Sharp, Willard W. Johnson, Henry S. Dulaney, William G. Koons, R. Irving Watkins, Clinton T. Wyatt, and James T. Prouse.

The ceremony was commenced by the audience singing the hymn, "A charge to keep I have," when Presiding Elder John France offered prayer.

Bishop Foss then made his charge to the class. In his address he said; If Demosthenes were informed in his day of the opportunities that would be offered orators of these latter days in the Christian pulpits, what do you suppose would have been his thoughts? He would have looked probably for a total and speedy abolition of the innumerable abuses existing in human society. Alas for human prognostications and the capacity of men. Even in this Christian America, in this nineteenth century, what has been accomplished.

Alas, in Europe not one in every five men enters the doors of a church.

Is there not a need for prayer? Are there not obstacles that are very great standing in the way of the success of the pulpit. The ministry required at this time is in its great necessities the ministry that has been required at all times. I do not speak of the obstacles as apologies for the failure in our work. Were there no obstacles there would be no use for us.

We must have a learned ministry. The terms educated and learned are not convertible words. By a learned ministry I mean men who continuously strive and delve after a better intellectual condition in their ministry. I believe still as ever that God will call men from the plow and anvil. Yet I plead for a learned ministry in the perpetual and strenuous endeavor after a better ministerial furnishing. The ministry must treat specifically on the question of the day. It is different from what it was 50 years ago. We must have instructed men to command the respect of those to whom they minister. The greatest books of the world are sold for 10 and 20 cents. Knowledge is popularized now. On the fly leaf of Queen Mary's presentation Bible, in her own handwriting you may read to day "presented to king and I at our coronation." [Laughter.] Let me tell our young preachers that in the far west there is no field nor harbor for incapacity. I would sooner undertake to find refuge for a clerical incapable in a Boston or Philadelphia pulpit to day than in Bozeman or Santa Fe. [Applause.] Social questions, those of political study, the relation of science and religion, philosophy—those which ministers cannot always avoid, they must, if they speak upon such themes

talk with intelligence or they will lose respect. You must teach the ethics of the age, prove, preach and expound. You must impress men as the oracle of God. You must daily digest the few greatest authors. Don't dawdle over the morning newspaper. A good authority says 7½ minutes' time is the most you need give it. But above all study the book of books, largely and minutely. Read in the Hebrew and Greek the very words of the Holy Ghost. Strive to make of yourself a learned exegete. Don't chop texts and fling bits at people. Woe to the man who attempts a learned style of preaching. The speaker continued in demonstrating that the ministry of our time must be a consecrated one. There should be no attitudinizing in the pulpit while souls are starving. If you cannot be an evangelist in the country or State, be one in your own charge, if not leave the ministry. I do not plead for a wild fire, but for a fire sent down from heaven. I am glad that the glorious time of conversions has not passed away from this grand old historical Peninsula.

The speaker closed his address with warm words of Christian wishes for the class before him.

The class then arose in invitation of the presiding bishop, when the usual disciplinary questions were answered. Upon the seriatim personal reply that each one abstain from the use of tobacco, there was audible applause from the conference. The members were invited to ask any fit question of the class. Upon detailed questioning the first three names were admitted to full connection.

Rev. N. M. Browne, rising to a question of privilege, interrupted the further admission of candidates for full connection, and read a long statement of the work of the Salisbury district during the quadrennium ending 1879, during which period he was presiding elder of that district. He said there appeared in the printed copy of the minutes of the last session of the conference a tabulation of the statistics of Salisbury district covering the work of the district from the organization of the conference. The same figures, with the table less complete, he added, was circulated in pamphlet form in the early part of the conference year. These publications, he claimed, have tended to produce the impression that the administration of the financial interests of the church during the quadrennium ending 1879 was a failure. His communication, which was printed, was presented, he said, as a matter of justice to the ministers who did the hard work of that period and the loyal laymen who gave to the support of the church. Mr. Browne's remarks were listened to with the deepest attention, and when he had finished, J. B. Quigg introduced a series of resolutions, providing that Mr. Browne's communication be printed in the minutes; that it is a serious violation of the duty of the conference secretary to print anything not approved by the conference; that it is the desire of the members of conference to confide implicitly in their Bishops, and for them to do this it is necessary that any one approaching the Bishop, not a layman residing among us or a minister in our conference, receive the severest repulse for his interference; that any one entering into an agreement or combination to control the action of conference in electing delegates to the General Conference be condemned. A motion to adopt the resolutions was made and seconded, but further consideration was postponed until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, when Presiding Elder J. A. B. Wilson will be heard in the matter.

Among the visiting clergymen introduced to the conference were Dr. Porter of the Newark Conference, Dr. J. M. Williams, formerly president of the now obsolete Wesleyan College, this city, but now is a member of the New Hampshire Conference; E. C. Hancock and W. P. Davis of the New Jersey Conference and Theodore Stevens, H. T. Quigg,

and Henry Franklin of Philadelphia Conference.

The election of a special committee on Sunday observances was ordered.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10.

This morning's session of conference was called to order at 8.30 o'clock, by Bishop Foss. Rev. T. E. Martindale led the devotional exercise by reading a selection from John xvii, after which the hymn "Guide me, O thou Great Jehovah," was sung. After prayer and the singing of another hymn, Secretary Rigg read the minutes of the previous session, which were approved.

The following visitors from the Philadelphia Conference were introduced by the presiding bishop; Joseph Mason, S. W. Thomas, William Swindells, John F. Crouch, S. W. Kurtz, I. R. Merrill, A. Johnson, and C. Adamson.

Rev. Dr. J. S. Porter was introduced to conference, and made a short address; recounting his early ministry, half a century ago, within the bounds of the Wilmington Conference. The speaker is 83 years of age. This month 59 years ago, he was admitted to Philadelphia Conference from the Snow Hill, Md., district. The first four years of the speaker's experience were in Cambridge circuit, then in Dorchester, and Lewestown. When the question arose in the General Conference, in 1863, in regard to the independence of the Wilmington Conference, he spoke strongly in favor of the measure. He had attended General Conference six times, but would just as soon stay at home. The speaker came to Wilmington to visit the resting place of Rev. Henry White, who died here over thirty years ago. He hoped that the conference would erect the monument over Henry White's remains, as it had proposed to do.

The bishop called the special order for this hour, action on Rev. J. B. Quigg's motion of yesterday's session. Presiding Elder J. A. B. Wilson stated that he intended voting for the placing of Rev. N. M. Browne's statement on the minutes. He thought Mr. Browne did what was right, and endorsed all but the reference the secretary, which he considered a reflection on that official.

Mr. Quigg said: "I owe it to my brethren that I should say that no member of this conference was privy to the motion, or its preparation, that I made yesterday. But I desire to say I am ready to withdraw the paper with the understanding, however, that so far as the principles contained therein are concerned, I nail them to the masthead to stay there. [Applause.]

Mr. Wilson—"So are we all."

Mr. Quigg—"I propose to withdraw the paper, in view of a meeting this evening, when arrangements are promised by which a better understanding will be gained among the brethren who are involved in the matter."

William W. Sharp, Henry S. Dulany, William R. Mowbray, Willard W. Johnson, William G. Koons, R. Irving Watkins, Clinton T. Wyatt, and Jas. Prouse were admitted into full connection.

Rev. T. O. Ayres read his annual report as follows: "The year has been one of toil and triumph. In Salisbury the Lord has literally given us 'beauty for ashes.' One year ago, we had two ash piles—the cremated remains of our church and parsonage. Out of the one has come the most beautiful parsonage in the conference, and from the smouldering ruins of the other, has arisen a magnificent stone church, the most modern in design and second to but one in the conference. The Salisbury spartan band of Methodists, nobly helped by William H. Jackson, brother of the governor of Maryland, have shown themselves to be true sons of heroic fathers. The salary of the Salisbury pastorate was advanced \$100. The collections were larger than they ever were in the history of the charge. The energy manifested by the Salisbury congregation ran along the nerve-lines of the district, resulting in the building of three

other churches, one at Bladesburg and the others at Mt. Vernon and on Powellville circuit. Two churches on the Somerset charge were repaired, as were also the churches at Frankford and St. Peters. The parsonage debt at the last charge is paid. The year has been one of genuine revival, resulting in many conversions. At some points there has been a slight retrograde. The vampire of rum is still at the throat of Worcester and Wicomico counties, sucking out their life-blood. Berlin, Snow Hill, Pocomoke City and Salisbury are cursed with a curse that is degrading not only the people, but the ground also, and it is in many places bringing forth 'thorns and thistles.' Grim-visaged malaria is abroad on barbed streets, riding to and fro to fright the souls of fearful adversaries. The fiction has gone beyond the bounds of our conference, and is working damage to our interests. We are spoken of abroad as 'the graveyard of Methodism.' The malaria ghost has made its advent into Drew Theological Seminary, and the students are being scared away from our conference.

There is no foundation in fact for the existence of such a prejudice against the healthfulness of our climate. During the last 20 years, 40 members of the conference have died, an average of two deaths yearly. Nine of these died on Salisbury district. But one preacher has died in 20 years on the Salisbury district of malaria. During these two decades five ministers of the Wilmington Conference have died on the Dover district, seven on the Easton district, and twelve on the Wilmington district. Seven who had retired and gone beyond the Conference limits have died. These facts kill the malaria scare as dead as Banquo, but its ghost, like the ghost of Banquo, is here and everywhere. Mr. Ayres quoted from the reports of the presiding elders covering the entire period of 19 years to "furnish a coffin, a shroud, and a grave to the malaria scare" and hoped the "poor old ghost will down and be permitted to stay down." He claimed that the average health of the Methodist preacher is as good in this Conference as it is in any Conference in the connection; and challenged contradiction: and called for proof to the contrary. In conclusion he reported the condition of finances to be healthy; and presented to the Conference an album containing a photograph and sketch of the life of each preacher of the Salisbury district, both active and retired.

Rev. John France, presiding elder of the Easton district, reported: "The health of myself, and the preachers and their families, has been exceptionally good. Immediately upon the adjournment of the last session of Conference, I proceeded to fill as best I could, the charges left to be supplied. William Sheers, a student from the Boston University, did good service at Sasafra. D. Gollie, a local preacher, was continued on Talbot circuit. Tunis Mills has been supplied by T. E. Bell, a supernumerary preacher. C. K. Morris was continued at Massey's mission. Our whole field has been provided with capable and earnest men, and although the fruit gathered from the toils and sacrifices of the year, may not equal in quantity what we could have desired, yet we may well join you in this harvest home rejoicing, over what the Lord has done for his heritage. There is a great demand for Christian workers. The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." The Crumpton church has bought a parsonage for \$800, on which \$500 has been paid. The parsonage at Ingleside is completed. It cost \$1,350, of which \$800 is paid. The parsonage built last year on Tilghman Island, has been nearly cleared of debt. The parsonage at Church Hill, has been enlarged at a cost of \$337. On the parsonage at Easton, \$200 were expended, and \$400 on the Smyrna station parsonage. The debt of the Marydel parsonage was reduced \$150. The parsonages at Cecilton, Appoquinimink, Rock Hall, Hillsboro, Greensboro, Trappe, Galena, Centreville, and the district parsonage, have been improved. The work of new churches has not been entirely neglected. We sometimes think our district is well provided with churches. We hope the

time is not far distant, when Methodism on this Peninsula, will rally under but one banner, and that, the banner under which have been won the victories that have placed our church where she stands to-day. A new church is being erected in Clayton. The congregation was recently organized, and in the Sunday school, there are 119 pupils and teachers. The new church will cost \$2,000, and will be dedicated soon. A chapel is to be built at Sherwoodville. Rev. W. W. Sharp of Ingleside, has in hand a subscription of \$400, towards building a church at Henderson. The lecture room of the church at St. Michaels has been remodeled at a cost of \$856. Chatham Chapel is being enlarged, and Stephenville Church has been remodeled. The improvements to the Galena church are nearly completed. It will be one of the best churches in the Conference, and will be dedicated next month. The Oxford church has been entirely cleared of debt. Trappe church reduced its debt \$100, and St. Michael's reduced its debt \$684. A decided advance has been made in all lines of church benevolences. Our missionary collection this year, will be in the aggregate about \$4,624; nearly, if not quite up to our apportionment, an advance of \$1,200 in the last two years, or of \$500 for the last year. The other collections will be in advance of last year. The following charges are in excess of their missionary apportionment: Hillsboro, \$40; Smyrna, \$75; Easton, \$115. The spirit of revival has been abroad, and every charge has shared to some extent in its saving influence. There have been 1,200 conversions, and 1,100 probationers have been admitted to the churches." Mr. France condemned progressive euchre parties, gatherings for dancing, and so-called scientific clubs, which exist on his district, and commended the work that is being done in the locality, by the W. C. T. U. He concluded by pointing out the responsible relation of the church to the Sunday school.

On the election for clerical delegates to the General Conference Rev. E. C. Macnichol was elected assistant secretary and the following as tellers: Wilmington district, Isaac Jewell; Easton, W. H. Hutchin; Dover, L. P. Corkran; Virginia, R. Irving Watkins.

Continued on fourth page.

REV. T. S. TYNG. (Protestant Episcopal) says: "As a mission, the work in Japan is almost done. The Japanese will soon organize a national Church for themselves. There are signs of Christian union among all Protestant Christians."

The Sunday School.

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 18th, 1888; Matt. 21: 33-46.

BY REV. W. G. HOLWAY, U. S. N.
[Adapted from Zion's Herald.]

THE SON REJECTED.

GOLDEN TEXT: "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not" (John 1: 11.)

33. *Hear another parable*—Says Dr. Parker: "He calls it a parable—it burns like a judgment." There was a certain householder (R. V., "a man that was a householder").—The householder in the parable represents God; the husbandmen, the Jews, or, possibly, the chief priests and rulers; the servants, the prophets; the son, of course, is Christ. *Planted a vineyard*.—The illustration is drawn from one of the most familiar objects, Judah was the land of the vine. As a symbol, the "vineyard" was used by the prophetic writers to depict the Jewish Church, which was God's especial planting. Our Lord probably took the ground-work of His parable from Isa. 5: 1-7, and developed it "by connecting His own appearing with all that had gone before in the past Jewish history." Nothing requires more, and better repays, diligent care, than the vineyard; nothing, therefore, was so valuable. *Hedged it round about* (R. V., "set a hedge about it")—possibly a wall of loose stones (Stanley); or a row of prickly pear, which made a dense, thorny hedge. As used in the parable the "hedge" refers to the law, which fenced the Jewish people in, and fenced out the idolatrous

Gentiles. *Dugged a winepress in it*—in which the grapes were put, to be trodden by the feet of the wine makers; the juice running into the winefat, hollowed out of the rock below it. Says Schaff: "This seems to be added, to complete the description. Some suppose it represents the altar of the Old Testament economy, others the prophetic institution." *Built a tower*—the watch-tower, often very high, for the accommodation of the keepers who protected the vineyard from thieves and wild animals. Dr. Hackett, and others, describe these towers; multitudes of which, built of stone, circular in shape, some fifteen or twenty feet high, are still found in the East. The sleepless protection of His people by God is here hinted at. *Let it out to husbandmen*—who were charged with the oversight of the vineyard, and made responsible for the fruit; plainly referring to the rulers of the Jews, who as the spiritual leaders and guides of the people were charged with seeing to it, that God's "pleasant vine" should bring forth "much fruit." *Went into a far country* (R. V., "another country").—Luke adds: "for a long while." When God brought forth His vine out of Egypt, He was peculiarly, in a sense visibly, present. His own voice gave the law at Sinai. The care of His church was then committed to human hands. He no longer spoke with them "face to face."

"The vineyard represents the Church, or Fold of God's service. This must be girt as with a hedge; it must have its ordinances for receiving the flow of the divine nourishment; it must have its towers and watchmen against the assaults of the profane, or the incursions of hypocrites (Whedon).—Christ repeatedly represents God as appearing to withdraw from the earth, that He may test the fidelity and obedience of His children (Matt. 24: 48, 25: 14; Luke 19: 12). I should say this represents and partially explains the "eternal silences," God's seeming absence" (L. Abbott).

34. *The time of the fruit*—when, in the natural course of things, fruit might be expected. Says Whedon: "In the vineyard of our probation all the time of our responsible years is harvest time, in which we are expected to bring forth fruit to Him who hath planted, and let to us the vineyard. But as applied to Israel it refers to the period of her history when, Canaan being fully possessed, God sent His prophets to remind His people of their duty." *Sent His servants*—the Old Testament prophets. The rent of the vineyard was to be paid in kind—in fruit. The prophets were sent to warn the tenants of the spiritual vineyard, that such fruits as obedience, devotion, sincerity, and the like, were expected from them by the absent husbandman.

"God began, about 430 years after the Exodus, to send His prophets to the people of Israel, and continued even until John, the Baptist; but all was in vain; they "persecuted the prophets," casting them out, and putting them to death" (Alford).

35. *Beat one . . . killed another . . . stoned another*—a perfectly just summing-up, of the treatment of God's messengers by the Jewish people. Says Trench: "In St. Luke the gradual growth of the outrage under the sense of impunity is distinctly traced. When the first servant came, they 'beat him and sent him away empty'; the next they not only beat, but 'entreated him shamefully'; or, according to St. Mark, who defines the very nature of the outrage, 'at him they cast stones, and wounded him in the head, and sent him away shamefully handled.'"

36. *Sent other servants*—not deterred, by the unfruitful and violent reception given to those first sent. No human forbearance can be compared with this. *More than the first—more numerous. Did unto them likewise*—showing no sign of penitence; adding violence to violence, and guilt to guilt, and ingratitude to ingratitude.

"Some of the prophets were not merely maltreated, but actually put to death. Thus, if we may trust Jewish tradition, Jeremiah was stoned by the exiles in Egypt; Isaiah sawn asunder by king Manasseh; and, for an ample historical justification of the description, see Jer. 37: 38; 1 Kings 18: 13; 22: 24-27; 2 Kings 6: 31; 21: 16; 2 Chron. 24: 19-22; 36: 16; and also Acts 7: 52; and the whole passage finds a parallel in the words of the apostle" (Heb. 11: 36) (Trench).

37. *Last of all* (R. V., "afterward") he sent . . . his son—in Luke, "my beloved son." The line is sharply drawn here, between the "servant" and the "son." "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake unto our fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath made heir of all things." Jesus here claims to be something more than a merely human messenger. For the Father to send Him was the greatest act of mercy; to reject Him was to exhaust the divine love, and to fill up the measure of guilt. *They will reverence my son*.—No better answer could Jesus give to the question, "By what au-

thority doest Thou these things?"

Here, as everywhere, the meaning of the title "son" transcends absolutely the notion of Messiah, or theocratic king, or any office whatever. The title expresses above all, the notion of a personal relation to God as Father. By this name Jesus establishes between the servants and himself an immeasurable distance (Godet).

38, 39. *This is the heir*.—He flings it in their teeth, that they know in their inmost hearts who he is, by what authority he acts, and what prerogatives truly belong to him. *Come, let us kill him*.—Alford notes that these are the precise words used by the envious brethren of Joseph (Gen. 37: 20), whose history is so eminently typical of the rejection and subsequent exaltation of Jesus. *Seize R. V., "take" his inheritance*.—Had they believed on him, accepted him, the inheritance might truly have been theirs. By killing him, they simply called down destruction upon themselves. *Cast him out of the vineyard*—an intimation of his being crucified "without the gate." "This prophecy was meant, if possible, at the last hour to prevent the guilt of its own fulfillment." Cambridge Bible. *Stew him* (R. V., "killed him")—carried out their wicked purpose; a solemn prophecy of the fate he would endure at their hands.

An expression of folly, in addition to the wicked resolve, as though the death of the heir would permit them to hold the possession while the householder lived. This assumes an unwilling conviction of the Messiahship of Jesus on the part of the rulers. Up to this point the parable was history, here it becomes prophecy. In the attempt to maintain their own authority, which he had challenged, by putting him to death, they defied God (Schaff.)

40, 41. *The Lord . . . what will he do?*—Two of the evangelists represent this question as spoken by our Lord himself, and the third as a question asked by the Pharisees. *They say unto him*—thus condemning themselves. *Will miserably destroy those wicked* (R. V., "miserable") men—fulfilled in the destruction of Jerusalem. Says Trench: "It may be that the Pharisees to whom he addressed himself, had as yet missed the scope of the parable, answering as they did; and so, before they were aware, pronounced judgment against themselves. *Let out . . . vineyard unto other*—a transfer from the Jewish hierarchy to the Christian church. S., the apostle said (Acts 13: 46), "Lo, we turn to the Gentiles."

The "God forbid," which, according to St. Luke, the people uttered when they heard the terrible doom of the husbandmen, gives evidence that the scope of the parable had not escaped their comprehension (Trench).

42. *The stone which the builders rejected*—taken from Psalm 118: 22, 23, the same Psalm from which the hosannas of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem were taken, and applied by the Jews to the Messiah. See also, Peter's application in Acts 4: 11; 1 Pet. 2: 7. Christ himself is the rejected stone, the "builders" are the rulers whom he is addressing. *This is the Lord's doing* (R. V., this was from the Lord)—referring to the exaltation of the despised One. Says Huebner: "What wise one of this world, what human reason would have conceived, under the cross, that this Man, suspended between two malefactors and despised by all, would one day receive the worship of the whole world? 'This is the Lord's doing, and is marvelous in our eyes'"

43. *Therefore say I unto you—a direct and pungent application. Kingdom . . . shall be taken from you*—who have forfeited all right and claim to it by your treatment of God's messengers and Son. *Given to a nation bringing forth the fruits*—to a spiritual Israel to be gathered from among the believing Gentiles. The early Christian Church, or the present church of Christ, in so far as they exhibit the fruits of righteousness, joy and peace, and are spiritually active, illustrate and fulfill this prophecy.

44. *Whosoever shall fall on this stone . . . broken*.—Our Lord in his humiliation was the stumbling-block, the rock of offense, to the self-willed, haughty chiefs of the Jewish nation. They bruised themselves in coming into contact with him. *On whosoever . . . fall . . . will grind him to powder* (R. V., "will scatter him as dust")—or, to use Daniel's imagery, "like the chaff of the summer threshing-floors." When our Lord, no longer in his humiliation, but exalted to the chief place of power, shall smite his enemies, they will be pulverized into nothingness. What fearful words were these for Christ to use!

45, 46. *Perceived that he spake of them*.—They could scarcely help feeling so, entrenched though they were in their proud self-conceit. Never had they encountered before an opposer so unsparing and fearless. *Fearing the multitude*.—The turbulent mob would not hesitate, they knew, to take up stones if any violent demonstration should be made against one whose words and manner placed him in their eyes among the prophets.

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Close of Conference.

At 4.30 P. M. the twentieth session of the Wilmington Annual Conference was brought to close by adjournment sine die. After a few most appropriate remarks, Bishop Foss read the appointments, the doxology was sung, the benediction pronounced, and this most important, and interesting ecclesiastical assembly became a thing of the past.

Conference Notes.

Our columns are so crowded with full reports of Conference proceedings, that we are obliged to defer to subsequent issues reports of Anniversaries and Editorial. We purpose giving our readers life sketches, of our delegates elected to the General Conference, lay as well as clerical.

Bishop Foss presiding, we are glad to say, not only made a fine impression, but commended him to the laity as well as the ministry, as a wise, impartial, brotherly and godly bishop. The resolutions, of appreciation passed by the Conference, we are sure, were the honest and hearty expression of their real feelings toward this distinguished chief pastor. So long as wisdom and Christly piety characterize the administration of a bishop, neither preachers nor churches will cavil at his possession of so large powers.

OUR DELEGATES.

There were three surprises in the choice of brethren to represent us in the General Conference; if not four.

One was that our highly esteemed brother, Dr. Jacob Todd, the gifted pastor of Grace Memorial, should be placed at the head of the delegation by so handsome a vote, notwithstanding the fact, that he is a transfer among us, of only two years' standing. This was doubtless a tribute to his ability as a minister and his true worth as a brotherly man. A second surprise, to the brother himself, as well as to many others, was the election of Rev. N. M. Browne, whose three years' pastorate of Scott M. E. church, has been attended with such grand success in every department of church work. A third surprise was the sudden appearance upon the electoral arena of our young brother, Rev. W. S. Robinson, the popular pastor of our church in Smyrna, Del., and his election as first reserve delegate.

The election of brother John A. B. Wilson, presiding elder of Dover District, as second delegate, and brother John France as second reserve, showed that their brethren did not regard the presiding eldership as an absolute dis-

qualification for membership in the General Conference.

Our lay brethren seem to have managed their work with a similar penchant for surprises.

The election of H. P. Cannon, of the Delaware Legislature, and L. S. Melson, of Wicomico, Md., giving the honors to Dover and Salisbury districts, when Wilmington, Easton, and Virginia had such excellent delegate timber was a surprise, at least to those who were not elected. Wilmington and Easton found solace, however, not only in the satisfaction that so capable and worthy brethren were chosen as brothers Cannon and Melson, but also in the election of Dr. A. E. Sudler, and Joseph Pyle, Esq., as reserves.

We trust both clerical and lay delegates will acquit themselves worthily in the grave responsibilities with which they are charged, and thus win imperishable renown as faithful servants of the church.

John A. B. Wilson, will preach in Camden, Sabbath morning, March 18th; at Leipsic Charge in the afternoon and at night.

THERE is a great change regarding the position of women in Japan. Many who a few years ago looked with contempt on woman are now anxious to raise her to the same level as in Western nations. The desire to have their daughters educated has worked in favor of Christianity, since it is not considered safe to send girls to any except Christian schools. All the mission schools for girls in Tokio are overcrowded.

Conference Proceedings.

(Continued from third page.)

On the question being raised of the acceptance by conference of the proxy ballot of T. O. Sypherd, who is absent at a funeral, and had left his sealed vote at the church, the presiding bishop stated that he had never known one to be offered in Conference, but saw nothing in the Discipline to oppose acceptance of it. A motion was passed ordering the acceptance of Mr. Sypherd's sealed ballot.

The balloting was proceeded with; and the following visitors from the Philadelphia Conference were introduced: Dr. W. J. Paxson, N. B. Durell, W. M. Ridgway, B. T. String, H. E. Gilroy, W. L. McDowell, George Cummins, and C. W. Bouy. Lay delegates Job H. Jackson and H. F. Pickles were introduced by Rev. John B. Quigg.

Bishop Foss introduced Bishop E. G. Andrews of Washington, D. C. Bishop Andrews took a seat on the platform.

Dr. James M. King of New York Conference was introduced by the presiding bishop.

Presiding Elder Wilson of the Dover district, submitted his annual report. "The number of charges on the district has increased from 37 to 40. Of these 17 are in Maryland, and 23 in Delaware. In Dorchester county, where Methodism was planted 102 years ago, we have been favored with a remarkably successful home mission work. In a part of this territory, which the political rancor of former times compelled us to abandon, we have returned with the olive branch of peace, and an evangel of salvation; and recount the result with shoutings of grace.

George F. Hopkins, turned loose there with a missionary appropriation of \$500, rehabilitated the abandoned churches; and the Lord has poured out his spirit in awakening power; scores of souls being converted. A church has been built on Hooper's Island, and another is being erected on Boen Island. A parsonage is also being built at the latter place. Brother Hopkins' removal to India is a serious loss to the Wilmington Conference, but is a benediction to India. With \$500 he, in a single year, secured 9 churches, with 319 members and 400 Sunday-school pupils. For the benevolences of the church they gave \$142. The second great work of grace

on the district was at Cambridge, where there were 98 conversions.

The church debt was reduced nearly \$1,500, and the general benevolences increased 40 per cent and the whole, both general and local, 20 per cent. The Crapo parsonage was refurbished, and the pastor's salary increased \$100; while the collections advanced 50 per cent. On Elliott's Island a parsonage was built, and pastoral salary trebled. Extensive improvements were made to the parsonage at Galestown. The pastoral salary at Hurlock's has been increased. Barrsville's benevolences increased 10 per cent., and Preston's 35 per cent. I. L. Wood led the Sussex county advance, with 150 conversions at Lincoln. The Lewes church suffered severely by the removal of 75 contributing members. Ellendale's benevolences are 148 per cent in advance. Milton's general collection's increased 107 per cent. A new church has been established on Harbeson. Substantial success crowned the efforts of Brother Terry at Dover; and a beautiful chapel has been erected at a cost of \$2,500. Most of the charges were reported to be in a healthy condition. The aggregate increase of salaries was \$2,000. There were in all 1,790 conversions. Three parsonages were built and the increase in the number of churches was 11. The Sunday-schools are more numerous than formerly and their membership has increased wonderfully. The increase in the contributions for Church extension was 110 per cent, and the Bible collection increased 136 per cent. The advance on missions was 41 per cent. The temperance work is pushed vigorously in every charge. The ministers of the district performed their work well. During the year there were 159 students at the Conference Academy. Of the 102 graduates, six have entered the ministry. Fifteen non-graduates are in the same calling. The Academy is valued at \$60,000, with an indebtedness of \$10,000. The library contains 1,600 volumes. The number of botanical specimens is 1,500. The income from the board and tuition, \$13,030 41; and the expenses amount to \$11,229.98. The crying necessity is for more room. The ladies' department is full, and the male department is crowded to repletion.

The tellers reported the following vote on the first ballot, total number of votes cast, 131; Jacob, Todd, 90; J. A. B. Wilson, 71; T. O. Ayres, 32; N. M. Browne, 28; John France 27; J. D. Rigg, 11; W. L. S. Murray, 8; R. W. Todd, 8; J. B. Quigg, 8; R. H. Adams, 7; W. B. Walton, 6; J. H. Caldwell, 6; Charles Hill, 5; and W. E. England, 5. There being 66 votes necessary to a choice; Jacob Todd, and J. A. B. Wilson, were declared elected clerical delegates to the General Conference. Another ballot was ordered for the third clerical delegate.

Dr. William Swindells and the Rev. S. W. Thomas, presiding elders of the Philadelphia Conference, were introduced.

Mr. Thomas stated that the guaranteed subscription to the Methodist Hospital in Philadelphia is \$100,000, and that \$10,000 is in the treasury.

Bishop Andrews who was invited to the chair by Bishop Foss appointed the following committee, to act upon the hospital question: Dover district, John Warthman; Easton, J. B. Merritt; Salisbury, T. E. Martindale; Virginia, J. W. Easley and Wilmington, R. C. Jones.

Rev. John B. Quigg asked that a certain sum be appropriated from the Centenary fund covering what is in the treasury to the credit of the tract fund to be invested in stock shares of the Conference Academy. Rev. Charles Hill opposed the motion, as beyond to the powers of the Centenary committee, as allowed by the Legislature. The question was relegated for settlement to the following committee: John B. Quigg, Charles Hill, and T. E. Terry.

The tellers handed in the following second ballot report—118 votes cast, as follows: T. O. Ayres, 34; John France, 26; N. M. Browne, 25; T. E. Martindale, 19, and J. D. Rigg, 14. No choice being made, the following ballots were severally reported by the tellers, also without an election: T. O. Ayres, 35; N. M. Browne, 33; John France, 26; T. E. Martindale, 10, and J. D. Rigg, 10; N. M. Browne, 29; T. O. Ayres, 37; John France, 32, and T. E. Martindale, 5.

The announcement was made that the conference apportionment on account of Freedmen's aid is \$4,000.

The Revs. T. E. Martindale, J. A. Arters, J. W. Easley, J. H. Willey and J. P. Ois were appointed a committee on proper observance of Sunday.

Conference adjourned and the Rev. W. J. Paxson pronounced the benediction.

SATURDAY MARCH 10.

The Conference opened at 8.30 A. M. by Bishop Foss, who announced that Rev. Charles Hill would lead the devotional exercises.

The hymn "O, for a thousand tongues" was sung, when Mr. Hill read a selection from Psalm ciii, following the singing of hymn No. 521, with prayer. "Nearer my God to Thee" was sung when Secretary J. D. Rigg read the minutes of yesterday's session which were approved. W. F. Dawson, E. H. Derrickson, E. P. Roberts, Daniel F. McFaul, Wilmer Jaggard, and William A. Wise were elected to elders' orders.

The Rev. John B. Quigg made a motion that the members of the lay Conference be invited to the clerical Conference. Revs. John B. Quigg, T. E. Martindale and Adam Stengle were appointed to ascertain their wishes.

Revs. Frank M. Morgan, C. K. Morris, William L. White, Harvey W. Ewing, William Shears and William P. Compton, were elected to deacons orders. George W. Bowman and George E. Scott were elected to elders orders.

Konrad P. Hartwig was continued on trial, and vote passed that any clear certificate of successful examination by any competent Swedish minister be accepted by this conference next year. The explanation is that Mr. Hartwig is a Swede, unable to speak our language, and there is no one in the committee or in Conference who can understand his language.

John R. Todd and Harvey W. Ewing were continued on trial. The case of Ethan F. Staats was postponed to Monday morning. Samuel F. Johnson was discontinued at his own request. J. W. Geisler, Stephen M. Morgan, Ralph T. Coursey, Z. H. Webster, Joshua W. Gray, and W. P. Taylor were continued on trial.

The following resolution was adopted: Resolved, We, the members of the Wilmington Annual Conference having learned that Rev. J. A. Roche of the New York East Conference is preparing for publication a life of the sainted John P. Durbin, D. D., he being urged thereto by scholarly and distinguished ministers and laymen of our church, respectfully express to Dr. Roche our endorsement of his purpose; and commend the issue of this work to the fathers and brethren of the M. E. Church.

The resolution was signed by W. M. Warner, J. H. Caldwell, George A. Phœbus, J. B. Quigg and N. M. Browne.

Revs. G. K. Morris of Philadelphia, and G. E. Farring of the Methodist Protestant Church were introduced.

Rev. W. R. Griffith of Coke Memorial Church, Utica, N. Y., was introduced to the conference and made an address, after which a collection was made for his church amounting to \$79.37. The same clergyman was introduced to the lay conference downstairs who granted him \$15, making a total of \$94.37.

The fifth ballot for the third clerical delegate resulted as follows: 125 votes cast, N. M. Browne, 45; W. S. Robinson 40; John France, 17; T. O. Ayres, 13; and T. E. Martindale, 4. There was no choice and another ballot ordered. Revs. J. France and T. O. Ayres requested that their names be withdrawn from nomination.

D. H. Corkran and James M. Mitchell were advanced to the second class of deacons. George F. Hopkins was reported transferred to India; and W. R. Sears was continued on trial.

The tellers reported the result of the sixth clerical ballot; votes cast, 126; N. M. Browne received 67, W. S. Robinson 57. The presiding bishop then announced Rev. N. M. Browne as the third clerical delegate to General Conference. It was next ordered to ballot for alternates.

The following supernumerary preachers were continued, J. L. Houston, A. A. Fisher, George Barton, John Allen, G. A. Phœbus, James Esgate, and Henry Sanderson.

Rev. J. O. Sypherd was appointed auditor of the presiding elders' accounts of Parent and Domestic missionary moneys.

The credentials of John H. Connolly were restored.

The tellers reported the following result of the ballot for clerical alternates sult of the ballot: W. S. Robinson, 65; —121 votes cast: W. S. Robinson, 65; John France, 46; T. O. Ayres, 45; and T. E. Martindale 28. The chair declared Mr. Robinson elected as one of the clerical alternates.

The six front pews of the middle aisle were cleared for the Lay Conference and Revs. Adam Stengle, J. B. Quigg, and T. E. Martindale appointed to escort them into the clerical Conference.

Henry P. Cannon and L. S. Melson, the lay delegates to General Conference were introduced by the bishop. Secretary Dr. R. J. Price and chairman Hon. H. C. Dodson, addressed conference as follows:

"Mr. President and members of the Wilmington conference. The Lay conference has concluded its labors. Out of a possible attendance of more than 150 members, more than 140 members were present at the opening session; its deliberations at once pass into the history of the Conference.

We, your brethren of the laity, after a harmonious session, take pleasure in presenting to you the result of our deliberations. We have elected H. P. Cannon and L. S. Melson, two tried and trusted friends of Methodism to join with the ministerial brethren whom you have chosen to represent this conference territory at the approaching General Conference. It is with righteous pride and thanks to God that we have this exalted privilege. We are your helpers for the building up of Christ's Kingdom. We are your servants to provide in secular things as you are ours for things spiritual until the final coming and victory of our God and his Christ. May the men we have chosen be an honor to the General Conference, as they will be an honor to you, and may Methodism continue to maintain its hold upon the hearts of the people within the bounds of this conference in the future as it has done in the past, until every undeveloped portion of the territory shall be fully occupied, and new victories through its instrumentalities be accomplished for the Master, and may the peace of God abide upon our Zion."

Rev. J. B. Quigg offered the following resolutions, which were passed:

Resolved, That we greet our brethren of the lay electoral conference with grateful hearts, for the blessings which God has showered upon our conference during the past quadrennium.

Resolved, That we are happy in the confidence which unites us as ministers and laymen and trust that our relations may continue united and that we may always be one in the endeavor to build up every interest of Zion in our midst.

Brief addresses were made by Dr. A. E. Sudler, Rev. John B. Quigg, and Dr. R. J. Price, following which Bishop Foss in welcoming the members of the Lay Conference said he ways always happy to look into the faces of the lay members. He was a strong believer in the participation by them in the governing matters of the church. In the Brooklyn General Conference of 1872 he advocated the movement for their larger and more representative powers. The divine order of clerical members, first in time, labor and ministrations, they are entitled to all they receive from the laity, from you as the burden bearers of the church, and, continued the speaker, I beg of you in every charge where you stand that you bear up your ministers and support them with all the kindly heartiness you are capable of.

The closing words of the bishop's brief address had hardly escaped from his lips when the whole immense audience broke out in the old hymn "Help Me, Dear Savior," which was sung with

fever while ejaculations burst from all quarters of the room.

The lay conference then retired and after a short resumption adjourned to meet at 2 P. M.

Rev. J. A. B. Wilson returned the credentials of L. C. Andrews, who had withdrawn from the Church.

Among the visitors to conference this morning were the Revs. R. B. Cook, D. D., Henry D. Lindsay, William L. McEwan and Jonathan S. Willis.

At the close of this morning's session the delegates were presented with a neat slate note book with the compliments of J. Miller Thomas.

After the singing of the doxology and the benediction, adjournment was made to Monday morning at 8.30 o'clock.

MONDAY, MARCH 12.

The Conference opened at 8.30 A. M. Bishop Foss in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. N. M. Browne, who read a selection from 1 Corinthians 1. After the singing of the hymn, "O for a thousand tongues to sing," and prayer, the secretary read the minutes of Saturday which were adopted.

Rev. J. B. Quigg presented the new constitution as approved by the board of trustees of the Conference Missionary Society in relation to church sites, and for securing funds for support of destitute charges. It was suggested that the board meet annually at Dover, in the month of June. The collection heretofore known as church relief, shall be designated as the home mission, 90 per cent of the money to be at the call of the presiding elders of the Conference in aid of missions, 10 per cent, for a reserve fund for eligible lots. The constitution was adopted.

The following trustees for the Conference Academy were elected: T. B. Hunter, W. L. S. Murray, T. O. Ayres and T. E. Terry.

The report of the Church Extension Society, recommended the following: Golt's station, an additional donation of \$100; Pittsville, loan \$100, and donation of \$200; Thawley's Dover district, donation \$180, and Viola, same district, loan \$250, donation \$86.

Applications for aid were received, from Wesley, in Wilmington; Derrickson, in Ironshire, Md.; Parksley, Assawoman, Horntown, Eastville, New Church, Bird's Nest and Exmow, in Virginia, and Little Creek, Del.

The following recommendations were made: Houston, loan \$200, donation \$200; Assawoman, loan \$200; donation \$200; Parksley, loan \$200; Wesley, donation \$400; Derrickson, donation \$35; Little Creek, loan \$300, donation \$300.

The application of Eastville was endorsed with the understanding, that it shall be considered by the Parent board as soon as there shall be funds on hand to its credit.

The subjoined account with Parent board rendered February 2d, 1888, will show the disposition of the cases: Paid Pittsville, Va., loan \$100, donation \$200; Golt's Md., donation, \$200; Houston, Del., donation, \$100; Viola, Del., loan \$250, donation, \$75; Reliance, Va., Cokesbury, Md., donation \$150; Derrickson's Md., donation \$35; Little Creek, Del., loan \$600, donation \$500; Wesley in Wilmington, donation \$400.

Applications granted on conditions not yet complied with; Assawoman, Va., donation \$200, loan \$200; Horntown, Va., loan \$200, donation \$200.

Balance to credit, \$46.

The application of Thawley for a donation of \$180 was not acted on.

The committee on tracts made its annual report. The tract of Dr. Gibbons of California, on tobacco, was suggested for circulation.

The report of the committee on the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society stated, that the society has organized 4,600 auxiliaries in 18 years, with 115,000 members, and has sent 125 missionaries to the foreign work, 75 being now in active service. The receipts of the year ending October last, were over \$191,000, adopted.

The committee on Sabbath observance criticised the sale of merchandise on Sunday at camp-meetings.

The trustees of the Conference Academy and Board of Domestic Missions elected the following laymen: T. J. Stevenson, J. Wesley Denney and James E. Ellegood, and re-elected the present clerical incumbents.

E. F. Staats was discontinued at his own request.

The following supernumerary preachers were continued: James Hubbard, William Merrill, Alfred T. Scott, William F. Talbot, James B. Merritt, Thomas E. Bell, Thomas S. Williams, and William E. Tomkinson. Albert Chandler's relation was changed from supernumerary to effective. The Rev. W. E. England was granted a supernumerary relation.

On the question of next place of meeting, the Rev. W. W. Wilson invited the Conference to Easton, and the Rev. J. H. Willey advocated Milford. Easton was the choice. The bishop congratulated the conference, on the warm rivalry between Easton and Milford to be the host of the Conference. He had known Conferences to be without any invitation.

A motion was passed, that the statement read by Rev. N. M. Brown during the present session, in regard to the tabulation printed in last year's minutes be published in the present minutes.

For a second clerical reserve delegate, the tellers, reported: Total vote cast, 101; John France, 49; T. O. Ayres, 30, and T. E. Martindale, 10. There was therefore no choice. By acclamation of the conference, Rev. John France was elected second reserve delegate.

The Board of Stewards submitted the following report.

Your Board of Stewards are glad to report an increase, from all sources, of \$324. The whole amount placed in our hands for distribution is \$6,104.

	Appor-tioned.	Raised.
Wilmington district	\$1,620	\$1,844
Easton	1,295	1,242
Dover	1,145	1,234
Salisbury	785	893
Virginia	115	135

Total from collections	\$5,338
Chartered fund	30
Centenary fund	180
Book concern divided	320
Interest on Hiddle legacy	85
Interest on Bates mortgage	141
Total from all sources	\$6,104

Each claim has been prayerfully considered, and the allowance made according to our best judgment from the information we have received. Each member of your board of stewards has felt the responsibility placed upon him, and has sought to do his duty to the Church, and to each claimant upon these funds, in the fear of God. We do not claim infallibility of judgment, but sincerity of purpose in our work.

Our hearts have been pained to think that we have not the funds to give more liberally to many of these worthy claimants. By a vote of the last Conference your board of stewards were constituted a committee on endowment fund. In accordance with instructions given at that time by the Conference, the board met on October 4th, 1887, and issued an appeal in tract form, urging it upon the attention of the ministers and liberal minded laymen of our Conference. We regret to say that no response has been received to that appeal. It has gladdened our hearts to know, that the lay conference at this session have, by a resolution adopted in their meeting, heartily endorsed the plan of an endowment fund, and it gives us encouragement to believe, that if the proper effort is made by the pastors, the amount asked for (\$50,000) may be secured in the near future. A subscription amounting to \$200 was made at the steward's anniversary at this Conference, which subscription is in the hands of the treasurer of the board of stewards. The reports of the pastors of collections this year are free from any fractions of dollars, for which we extend our congratulations to our

brethren. We have distributed the funds placed in our hands to seven supernumerated and one supernumerary preachers, 24 widows and one child of deceased preachers. We desire to present the following resolutions for adoption by this Conference:

Resolved, That each claim upon this fund shall come from the quarterly conference, within whose bounds the claimant resides. (See discipline, page 367.)

Resolved, That the presiding elders be requested to have the report of each conference claimant committee endorsed by the quarterly conference within whose bounds the claimant resides.

The above report together with the resolutions was adopted.

A resolution of thanks was passed to W. H. Jackson for the gift of parsonage and church property at Salisbury, Md.

The following were presented for admission on trial; F. M. Morgan, Geo. P. Smith, William Sheers, G. F. Alderson, J. F. Anderson, F. F. Carpenter, W. P. Compton, W. W. Chaires, W. Burr, and C. E. Swain. All were admitted.

Rev. T. E. Martindale read the report of the trustees of the Wilmington Conference Academy. The academy debt, the report said, has been reduced to less than \$10,000, in excess of the assets. The interest on the bonded debt is paid to January 1st, 1888. It bonds of \$9,900 are as good as that much gold or silver or a treasury note of the United States. The interest is paid promptly, and the credit of the corporation good. The pledge of the Conference, made in 1873, to subscribe for the 3,000 shares of stock, making \$15,000, of which \$5,000 was to be paid in cash, and to pay interest annually upon the remaining \$10,000 from the annual educational fund, has been kept. The number of professors and teachers employed in the academy is eight. From September, 1886, to June, 1887, there were 159 students in attendance. During that year the receipts from tuition and board amounted to \$13,030.41. The expenses amounted to \$11,229.98, leaving a net profit of \$1,800.43. Bills amounting to about \$700 have not been collected. During the years 1885, 1886, and 1887 repairs costing \$2,211.70 were made. Of this amount all except \$351.79 has been paid. The academy building has been painted inside and outside, and is in nearly perfect order. It, however, is too small for the present needs, and the erection of a ladies' hall is recommended.

Rev. John Jones, who has been preaching at Hopewell, Md., was received on trial, as an elder. The credentials of Mr. Jones, from the Primitive Methodist Church, were presented by Presiding Elder W. L. S. Murray, Ph. D.

W. L. Gooding, principal of the Conference Academy made a brief address. The speaker dwelt upon the necessity of building a ladies' hall. Rev. J. M. Williams, the first principal of the academy, was introduced by Bishop Foss, as was also Dr. Myers, the Baltimore secretary of the Bible Society.

Consideration of resolutions offered by Rev. John B. Quigg in relation to ladies' hall of Conference Academy was made the order of the day at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

A motion was passed that Conference hold an afternoon session at 3 o'clock.

Presiding Bishop Foss then announced that Rev. Jacob Todd, D. D., would occupy the chair at the afternoon session, and that Rev. John B. Quigg would lead in the devotional exercises.

The session was then closed with the benediction by Bishop Foss.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13.

In spite of the terrible cold the last day's sittings were largely attended, Union Church being crowded both morning and afternoon. The opening religious services at 8.30 o'clock were conducted by the Rev. B. F. Price.

The morning session was consumed in receiving reports from various committees and the disposing of various minor matters incident to the closing of the session. The conference retired to the basement of the church for a secret session to consider the application of W. E. Tomkinson to have his relation changed from supernumerary to effective. The session lasted until 1 o'clock, when a recess was taken until 2 o'clock. The application of Mr. Tomkinson was refused. While the conference was in secret session Joseph Pyle conducted an informal prayer and praise meeting in which Chaplain McCabe told of the work of Bishop Taylor in Africa and sang several of his popular songs. Chaplain McCabe stated that eight or nine years ago he did not know what it was

to be tired, but within a year he had found that when he did too much he became tired. "And I am tired now," he added.

During the morning the following, presented by J. B. Quigg, was read, accepted, and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"The reporters of the daily press of this city desire to return their sincere thanks to the officers and members of the Wilmington Conference for the uniform courtesy and kindness, with which they have been treated during the session just ended, good and comfortable accommodations being afforded them, and full opportunity given to make excerpts of all reports and documents presented the conference."

The Rev. T. E. Martindale offered a motion, covering a vote of thanks to the press of the city, for its full, fair and impartial reports of conference proceedings. The motion was carried.

At the afternoon session, the relations of J. W. Poole were changed from effective to supernumerary. A collection was taken, to be equally divided between J. W. Poole and W. E. Tomkinson; it netted \$254.35. Thomas M. Giffin was transferred from the Virginia to the Wilmington Conference. A collection of \$35 was taken for E. H. Nelson, the conference journalist.

Thanks were returned by resolution to the families of those who had entertained delegates, to the bishop, to the Rev. Adam Stengle, trustees of Union Church, to the choir, to G. W. Murphy, to the secretaries, to J. D. Rigg for map, and to the sexton of the church.

The following appointments were made for conference societies and boards: Triers of Appeals—C Hill, W. B. Walton, W. J. Duhadway, J. W. Easley, T. B. Hunter, A. Smith, W. F. Corkran. To preach Missionary Sermon—W. S. Robinson; W. F. Corkran, alternate.

On Local Preachers who are Candidates for Deacons Orders—G. W. Wilcox, J. W. Hammersly, G. S. Conoway, W. B. Guthrie.

On Local Preachers who are Candidates for Elders' Orders—J. E. Bryan, E. P. Roberts, D. F. McFaul, D. F. Waddell.

Ministerial Qualification—R. W. Todd, J. B. Quigg, Charles Hill, N. M. Browne.

Conference Board of Church Extension—President, J. B. Quigg; vice-president, T. E. Terry; corresponding secretary, T. E. Martindale, treasurer, J. H. Hoffecker; ministerial managers, R. H. Adams, T. E. Terry; lay managers, Alexander Kelley, Joseph Pyle, W. T. Kellum, the Hon. W. R. McCabe; ex-officio members, the presiding elders.

Board of Church Location—Virginia district—J. W. Easley and George L. Hardesty, ministerial; H. L. Crockett and T. J. Kent, lay. Salisbury district—A. S. Mowbray and T. H. Harding ministerial; James G. Ellegood and W. J. Griffith, lay. Dover district—James Carroll and James Conner, ministerial; Stephen Postles and Henry Thawley, lay. Easton district—E. E. White and W. W. Sharpe, ministerial; R. M. Cooper and Joseph Smithers, lay. Wilmington district—J. E. Bryan, Adam Stengle, Jacob Todd, L. E. Barrett, and C. A. Grice, ministerial; J. T. Gause, G. W. Todd, Eli Mendinball, C. M. Leitch, William Y. Swiggett, lay.

It was decided to raise \$12,000 for the purpose of building a ladies' hall at the Conference Academy, the amount to be divided among the presiding elders for collection. J. A. B. Wilson pledged \$5,000 for the Dover district.

For appointments, see first page.

ITEMS.

A note of recent date from Dr. L. M. Danton, president of Claffin University, Orangeburg, S. C., brings us the cheering intelligence that this great educational centre has once more been blessed with a powerful revival of religion. The results up to the 20th ult. were 135 conversions. As many as 250 have connected themselves with the church, and 18 candidates have been baptized. Such was the prevailing spirit of the meeting, that 60 students were converted in one day. Dr. Danton has at present over 600 students enrolled in the various departments of Claffin.

Rev. John W. Butler rose to a question of privilege in the Mexico Conference; and stated that he understood some dissatisfaction existed with regard to his election as a delegate to the General Conference; he, therefore, desired to resign. A new ballot was ordered, and he was again elected.

A new and very neat edition of the remarkable sermon of Prof. L. T. Townsend, on Jonah, which he preached last May in Plymouth Church pulpit, Brooklyn, has been issued from the press of J. J. Arakelyan 148-150 Pearl St. It is very wholesome reading in these days, when Old Testament miracles are transformed into myths and legends. It is a calm, elaborate, reasonable and Scriptural interpretation of a somewhat difficult Scripture.

The Presbytery of Dallas, Texas (Southern Presbyterian), has ordained and received into full membership, a negro graduate of Lincoln University, Va. It is said that he passed as thorough an examination as any white man in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, the sciences, philosophy, theology, church history, etc., and then preached an extemporaneous sermon, which all said was unusually fine.

Bishop Paret, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, said while speaking of the importance of the work among the colored people, that there are only thirty-nine Episcopal churches for the eight millions colored people of this country. Baltimore has one and Washington two.

T. J. Curtis, the millionaire manufacturer of Meriden, Conn., has left \$750,000 by his will to the Curtis Home for Old Women and Orphans, which he built and maintained at his own expense. His estate is worth \$1,000,000.

Rev. J. M. King, D. D., a Methodist minister in New York, is reported to have stated that two hundred out of three hundred families, who admitted to convassers from his church, that they had no copy of the Bible, lived in brown stone-houses.

Chicago only has three clergymen who have been settled there for twenty years or more: Dr. E. C. Goodwin, who has just entered the brief list; Bishop Cheney and Rev. Dr. Locke.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe takes more interest in the ministerial work of her son, the Rev. Charles Stowe of Hartford, than in anything else in the world. She never fails to hear his Sunday morning sermon.

According to figures made up by Rev. W. F. Robertson, the Christian world raises over \$11,000,000 a year, for Protestant missions.

A reporter, interviewing an English preacher, asked: "I have heard that your rule is, on receiving a new member, to inquire what Christian work he proposes to do. Is that so?" Answer. "It is. We expect every member to be a working member!" Would not that be a good rule with preachers in this country? —New Orleans Christian Advocate.

EASTER MUSIC.

Portals of Glory, by Emma Pitt, Beautiful Morning, by Emma Pitt, Chimes of the Resurrection, by Emma Pitt, The Early Dawn, by Emma Pitt, He is Risen, by J. R. Murray, The Easter Angels, by H. Butterworth and Geo. F. Root, The Story of the Resurrection, by W. F. Sherwin, Emblems of Easter, by Mrs. T. E. Burroughs, Christ Triumphant, by Rev. Robert Lowry.

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\$1,200,000. TWELVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR MISSIONS FROM ALL SOURCES -FOR- 1888.

FROM A SINGAPORE PAPER we clip the following encouraging statement concerning our new work in that important city. It forms a part of a lengthy report of the first anniversary of the opening of the church building. The organization of the church itself was effected not quite three years ago.

Table with columns: Receipts for 1887, Disbursements, Balance, BUILDING FUND, Total cost of Church and School Buildings, Paid of this, Due.

THE METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE OF CALCUTTA printed during the past year 3,550,000 pages of Christian literature. It publishes a weekly paper in English, which is the largest religious paper in Asia.

"THE NORTH CHINA HERALD" of Sept. 10, publishes in a letter from Tientsin, where the great statesman of China, Li Hung-chang, has his official residence, the following statement, namely: "A letter was recently addressed to Mr. Smithers, the American consul of this place, requesting that he should see H. E. Li Hung-chang in regard to the location of the college, which Dr. Happer is laboring to establish at Nankin, and requests his excellency to memorialize the throne on the subject, giving all the particulars, that the future institution might also have imperial cognizance. As the Chinese are always partial to knowledge and learning, the viceroy readily assented to the proposal. But he requested that, as the institution was to be founded at Nankin, the parties should address a written petition to the viceroy at Nankin on the subject, and also present a copy to him; after which they would jointly memorialize the emperor on the subject."

John Howard the philanthropist never neglected the duty of family prayer, though there were but one, and that one a servant, to join him; always declaring that, where he had a tent, God should have an altar. Wherever he was, when the time came, the duty was attended to. The presence of no one was allowed to interfere with it; and every call of business must wait outside the locked door, till it was ended.

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Letter from Rev. C. M. Pegg.

Of all cities subject to extreme changes in the weather, I know of none more so than New York; intensely hot weather and fiercely cold weather, in their respective seasons. The winter air is peculiarly keen and cutting; and so very severe on the throats and lungs of delicate people. In the day time the air is filled with dust and in the wet season the streets and walks are besmeared with as nasty and slippery a mud as any wretched pedestrian ever waded through. Still there are hundreds of thousands of people who seem to hang to this vast city, as if herein centred their dearest hopes of life.

Here appear the noblest types of virtue, and here also are found the foulest forms of evil, outside the doleful regions of the damned. In close proximity are the splendid temples of education, philanthropy, and religion, and the worst maelstroms of sin in which souls can struggle, snuff, and die. Mammon has many worshippers, but some of the leading men of the commercial world hereabouts, are devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Methodism is not without its strong men in this metropolis, Gen. Clinton B. Fiske, at whose residence there is to be a reception of the Board of Managers, of the Church Extension and Missionary Society one evening this week, can not only make a powerful political speech, but also plead forcibly for the cause of God. John D. Slayback, the brewer and successful financier, who gave Bro. Wilson \$100 for his Peninsula work, prayed the other night in a crowded church with the simplicity and fervor of a very saint. Bowles Colgate, of whose superior soap the PENINSULA METHODIST spoke, on its editorial page so cordially, is, despite his great business, President of the Church Extension and Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this city. Chauncey Shaffer, widely known as a lawyer, is a zealous disciple of Christ, and an effective local preacher.

A matter of great interest in the Methodism of this neighborhood, just now, is the approaching General Conference, for which arrangements are being made. The accommodations for the Conference will probably be of a very superior nature.

Despite the prevalent wickedness in New York a great revival is going forward in Jane street; and Bedford street, Eighteenth street Park avenue and others have had showers of mercy.

I was almost startled at Bro. Leates' kind reference to my work in Somerset Co., and had no idea, I had contributed in such wise as he writes, to the cause of temperance in Maryland. If the drinkeries were "slop holes" there, they are veritable hell holes here in lower New York, and thousands are mourning through them to be devoured by brimstone fires.

God hasten the time when this diabolical enormity shall not have a single apologist in all the church of Christ, but when it shall be utterly and forever swept from the face of the whole earth.

128 Allen St., New York, March 6th, 1888.

The members of the approaching general conference are to be immortalized. Here and there a connective officer is not a delegate, and he will be treated the same way. A large quarto volume is being prepared by Mr. R. R. Doherty, assistant editor of the New York *Advocate*, which will contain a portrait and life sketch of every delegate and church official. The book is to be something extra, and the pictures will be of a newly modified lithographic process. It will appear a week before the great quadrennial church legislature meets.—*Michigan Christian Advocate*.

Obituaries.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord"

Friday morning, January 6th, Miss Mollie C. Meekins, of Meekins' Neck, triumphantly passed away. She had suffered intensely for fifteen weeks. The writer called to see her late in the afternoon on Thursday, the 4th, and she seemed very hopeful, and expressed a desire to get well and resume her work in the church; but it was apparent then, that her work on earth was soon to end. She was converted in June of last year and joined the M. E. Church in Meekins' Neck, under the ministry of the Rev. L. C. Andrews. From that time till the "Angel of Death" came to bear her away, her life was worthy imitation. We miss her gentle words and loving acts in the home circle. We miss her pleasant smile and sweet songs of praise in the Sunday school. Society in Meekins' Neck has sustained an irreparable loss in her death, but she is now in the society of those who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb. We acquiesce in the will of the great I AM, in taking away one so young and fair, and will try to so fashion our lives, that we may meet her in Heaven. Her pastor, G. W. BOUNDS.



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Christ Before Pilate.

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Given to every new subscriber after this date to the PENINSULA METHODIST and to every old subscriber who renew his subscription and sends the name of one new subscriber with two dollars. The original of this picture is too well known to need a lengthy description. It is one of the grandest paintings that has been given to the world in modern times. It covers about twenty by thirty feet of canvas, the figures all being life size. Everybody is familiar with the story. The scene is early morning in the Praetorium or official residence of the Roman Governor at Jerusalem. The picture is drawn from descriptions given in the New Testament of the appearance and trial of Christ before Pilate. It is there related that "when he was accused of the priests and elders he answered nothing." "And Pilate answered and said again unto them: 'What will ye that I shall do unto Him whom ye call King of the Jews?' and they cried out again, 'Crucify him!'" In the centre of the picture is the figure of the Savior with His hands bound, erect, composed, gazing steadfastly on the face of Pilate. Around and behind Him crowd the rabble of Jerusalem, some frantic, others attracted by idle curiosity, others apparently bent merely on killing time. In the immediate foreground is a Roman soldier holding the mob in check with the shaft of his spear. Pontius Pilate sits as the representative of Caesar on the judgment throne. He is meditating, and is greatly perplexed. He knows nothing against Christ, but dare not resist the clamor of the people. On the right of Pilate stands Caiaphas, the chief accuser of Christ, with his arm extended toward the excited populace. The figure pressing forward in the crowd with uplifted arms, is a rabbin of the lowest type. He is shouting "Crucify him! Crucify him!" On the left of Pilate sit two elders watching the proceedings with deep interest. Between Christ and Caiaphas, sitting on a bench, is a rich man looking on with contemptuous curiosity. Near him is a young rowdy leaning over the railing and scolding the face of Jesus. Perched on a high stool by the side of the judgment seat and resting his head against the wall is a scribe, who views the scene with an air of weary indifference. At the knot of old men is seated in the angle of the room to the left of the bank. They are apparently arguing Christ's claim that He is the promised Messiah. Conspicuously raised above the heads of the crowd is seen a young mother with a beautiful face, holding a child in her arms, and looking at Jesus with tenderness and compassion. Through the whole picture are groups of figures and faces reflecting the different emotions that animate each individual. The photo etching of this picture by the Manhattan Art Co. is a fac-simile of the original picture, and is considered the most perfect reproduction ever offered for sale. Remember, it is not a chromo, but a large photo-etching, 28 inches by 20, suitable for framing. The PENINSULA METHODIST for one year sent to two persons and two copies of the photo-etching all for only \$2.00. This large picture will be securely packed in a pasteboard tube, and sent by mail, postpaid. Address.

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P. W. & B. Railroad. Trains will leave Wilmington as follows: For Philadelphia and intermediate stations, 6:40, 7:00, 7:45, 8:15, 9:10, 10:30, 11:35 a. m.; 12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 7:45, 8:50, 10:30 p. m. Philadelphia (express), 2:22, 4:40, 6:50, 7:50, 8:50, 10:30, 11:35, 11:55 a. m.; 12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 6:50, 7:50, 8:50, 10:30 p. m. New York, 2:00, 2:52, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 10:07, 11:30, 11:51 a. m.; 12:20, 1:30, 2:27, 4:00, 5:22, 6:25, 7:06, 7:40, 8:50 p. m. For Newark Centre, Del. 7:42 a. m., 12:55, 6:21 p. m. Baltimore and intermediate stations, 10:05 a. m. 5:57, 11:38 p. m. Baltimore and Washington, 1:25, 4:45, 8:04, 10:05, 11:00 a. m., 12:05, 4:15, 5:55, 8:44, 5:10, 6:30, 7:45 p. m. Trains for Delaware Division leave for: New Castle, 6:00, 8:30 a. m.; 12:55, 2:50, 5:50, 6:25, 8:50, 12:05 a. m. Harrington, Delaware and intermediate stations, 5:30 a. m., 12:35 p. m. Harrington and way stations, 5:30 a. m., 12:55, 6:25 p. m. For Seaford 5:50 p. m. For Norfolk 12:55 a. m.

Wilmington & Northern R. R. Time Table, in effect Nov. 20, 1887. GOING NORTH. Daily except Sunday. Stations: Wilmington, 7:00, 2:45, 4:55, 6:15; French St., 7:45, 3:30, 5:40, 6:41; Newbridge, 8:21, 3:53, 6:20, 6:59; Dupont, 8:43, 4:03, 6:32, 7:02; Chad's Ford Jc., 9:08, 4:28, 6:57, 7:27; Lenape, 9:34, 4:54, 7:23, 7:53; West Chester Stage, 9:59, 5:19, 7:48, 8:18; Coatesville, 10:14, 5:34, 8:03, 8:33; Waynesburg Jc., 10:39, 5:59, 8:28, 8:58; Springfield, 10:54, 6:14, 8:43, 9:13; Birdsboro, 11:09, 6:29, 8:58, 9:28; Reading P. & R. Station, 11:24, 6:44, 9:13, 9:43.

GOING SOUTH. Daily except Sunday. Stations: Reading P. & R. Station, 5:00, 3:00, 5:00; R. Station, 5:22, 3:22, 5:44; Birdsboro, 5:10, 3:10, 5:41; Springfield, 5:29, 3:29, 5:42; Waynesburg Jc., 5:44, 3:44, 5:57; Coatesville, 6:09, 4:09, 6:22; West Chester Stage, 6:24, 4:24, 6:37; Lenape, 6:40, 4:40, 6:53; Chad's Ford Jc., 6:55, 4:55, 7:08; Dupont, 7:10, 5:10, 7:23; Newbridge, 7:25, 5:25, 7:38; Wilmington, 7:40, 5:40, 7:53; French St., 7:55, 5:55, 8:08. Additional Trains, on Saturday only, will leave Wilmington at 8:20 and 11:15 p. m. for Newbridge, Dupont, and all intermediate points. French Creek Branch Trains. Leave St. Peter's 6:50 a. m., 12:55 p. m. Arrive Springfield 7:25 a. m., 1:00 p. m. * Daily except Saturday and Sunday.

Western Maryland Railroad, connecting with P. W. & B. R. R. at Union Station Baltimore. Commencing Thursday, Dec. 11, 1887, leave Hilen Station as follows: DAILY. 4:40 A. M. Fast Mail for Shenandoah Valley and Southern and South-western points. Also Glyndon, Westminster, New Windsor, Union Bridge, Mechanicsville, Hine Ridge, Hagerstown, and except Sunday, Chambersburg, Waynesboro, and points on B & O. 11:35 P. M. - Accommodation for Glyndon and Emory Grove Wednesdays and Saturdays only. DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY. 6:00 A. M. - Accommodation for Hanover, Frederick, Emmitsburg, Westminster, Chambersburg, Shippensburg, Hagerstown, Williamsport and intermediate stations. Also, points on S. V. R. R. and connections. 9:45 A. M. - Accommodation for Union Bridge, Hanover, Gettysburg, and all points on B. & O. Div. (through cars). 2:25 P. M. - Express for Emory Grove. 4:00 P. M. - Express for Arlington, Mt. Hope, Pikesville, Owings, Mills, St. George's, Glyndon, Glenn Falls, Finksburg, Patuxent, Carrollton, Westminster, Medford, New Windsor, Linwood, Union Bridge and stations west of Hanover, Gettysburg and stations on B. & O. Division, (through cars) Emmitsburg, Waynesboro, Chambersburg and Shippensburg. 5:15 P. M. - Accommodation for Emory Grove. 6:27 P. M. - Accommodation for Union Bridge. TRAINS ARRIVE AT HILLEN. Daily - 2:10 and 10:40 P. M. Daily except Sunday - 7:30, 8:50, 11:40 A. M., 3:55, 5:10 and 6:25 P. M. Ticket and Luggage Office 247 East Baltimore St. All trains stop at Union Station, Pennsylvania Avenue and Fulton Stations. J. M. HOOD, General Manager. B. H. GRISWOLD, Gen'l Pass. Ag't.

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. SCHEDULE IN EFFECT NOVEMBER 20, 1887. Trains leave Delaware Avenue Depot: EAST BOUND. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 6:15 a. m. (except Sunday). Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 7:09 a. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 7:55 a. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 8:41 a. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 10:15 a. m. Philadelphia and Chester Express, daily, 11:14 a. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 1:00 p. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily except Sunday, 2:00 p. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 3:00 p. m. Philadelphia and Chester Express, daily, 4:05 p. m. (except Sunday). Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 5:10 p. m. Philadelphia and Chester Express, daily, 5:44 p. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 6:30 p. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily except Sunday, 7:30 p. m. (except Sunday). Philadelphia and Chester Express, daily, 9:18 p. m. Philadelphia Accommodation, daily, 9:45 p. m. WEST BOUND. Chicago and Pittsburg Limited, daily, 7:40 a. m. Arrives Chicago 11:10 next morning. Baltimore Accommodation daily except Sunday, 1:15 a. m. Cincinnati and St. Louis Limited, daily, 11:10 a. m. Arrives Cincinnati 7:45 a. m. St. Louis 6:40 p. m. next day. Baltimore Accommodation, daily, 2:45 p. m. Chicago and St. Louis Express, daily, 3:40 p. m. Singly Accommodation, daily, 5:40 p. m. Singly Accommodation, daily except Sunday, 12:30 a. m. For Lancaster, 10:30 a. m. and 2:45 p. m. daily except Sunday, 5:30 p. m. daily. Trains leave Market Street Station: For Philadelphia 2:50 p. m. daily except Sunday. For Baltimore 2:55 p. m. daily except Sunday. For Lancaster 3:50, 10:30 and 2:30 p. m. daily except Sunday, 5:30 p. m. daily. The 10:30 a. m. train connects at East Junction with Cincinnati and St. Louis through express daily except Sunday. The 3:30 p. m. connects with Chicago and St. Louis express daily. Trains for Wilmington leave Philadelphia 7:00, 8:15, 9:30, 10:45, 11:30, 12:00, 1:15, 2:30, 3:45, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:30, 8:10, 10:00 p. m. Daily except Sunday, 7:15 a. m., 12:00 noon, 4:15, 11:30 p. m. * Express Trains. C. E. LUD, Gen'l Pass Agent. Wm. M. CLEMENTS, Manager. Telephone call No. 198.