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Methodist Episcopal Church. South Carolina Conference

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MINUTES

OF THE.

SHAHMIN SESSION

OF THE

SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD IN THE CENTENARY CHURCH, WENTWORTH STREET. CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEC. 27, 1871. JAN. 1, 1872.

PUBLISHED BY THE S. C. CONFERENCE.

COLUMBIA, S. C.: WILLIAM SLOANE, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER.

1872.





MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH SESSION

OF THE

SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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1872.

Bishop MATTHEW SIMPSON, President.

HENRY J. FOX, Secretary.

V. H. BUCKLEY, E. M. PINCKNEY, §

CLERICAL DELEGATES
To the General Conference to be held in Brooklyn, N.Y., May 1872.

A. Webster, J. B. Middleton. Reserves, E. W. Jackson, Henry J. Fox.

LAYMEN.

Henry Cardoza, Esq., C. H. Helloway, Esq. Reserve, Hon. B. F. Whittemore.

> TRUSTEES: FOR ONE YEAR.

HENRY J. FOX.

J. A. SASPORTAS

FOR TWO YEARS.

V. H. BUCKLEY.

ISAAC DAVIS.

FOR THREE YEARS.

A. WEBSTER.

J. A. SASPORTAS.

STEWARDS. SAMUEL WESTON. BURREL JAMES. THOMAS PHILLIPS.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

PRIVILEGES.

Rev. Henry J. Fox, D.D., Charleston, S. C.

Rev. A. Webster, D.D., Orangeburg, S. C.

Hon. Wilson Cook, Greenville, S. C.

C. W. Blue, Esq., Jacksonville, Fla.

Rev. F. W. Sasportas, Summerville, S. C.

Brethren desiring information in connection with Titles, Educacation, Rights, Facilities of Travelling, &c., can address the Chairman, Box 109, Charleston.

EDUCATION.

A. Webster, Henry J. Fox, A. W. Cummings, B. J. Roberts, J. E. Wilson.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

B. L. Roberts, C. C. Managault, A. Middleton, E. Furguson, F. W. Sasportas.

STATISTICS.

Joseph Garrison, E. M. Pinckney, W. H. Crogman.

BIBLE CAUSE.

W. F. Parker, S. Weston, J. E. Lowery, J. G. Thompson, W. J. Salmond.

TEMPERANCE. E. W. Jackson, A. W. Cummings, J. B. Middleton, T. Wright, Joseph Howard.

MISSIONS. A. W. Cummings, W. O. Weston, E. J. Snetter, Isaac Davis, Francis Smith.

CHUCH EXTENSION.

True Whittier, E. Q. Fuller, William Darrington, A. Middleton, Thomas Evans.

FREEDMAN'S AID

R. J. Donaldson, V. H. Buckley, John Burroughs, L. Arthur, J. E. Hills, S. W. Hampton.

MISSIONARY APPROPRIATIONS.

A. Webster, True Whittier, J. A. Sasportas, J. C. Emmerson, N. Webster.

AUDITING ACCOUNTS.

Henry J. Fox, R. J. Donaldson.

PUBLIC WORSHIP.

A. Webster, Henry J. Fox.

STATE OF COUNTRY.

A. W. Cummings, Henry J. Fox, Thomas Wright, W. F. Parker, True Whittier, J. R. Rosemond, R. J. Donaldson.

PUBLISHING MINUTES.

Henry J. Fox, J. A. Sasportas, Samuel Weston.

MEMOIRS.

A. Webster, Henry J. Fox, J. Garrison, W. O. Weston.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO LAY DELEGATES.

A. Webster.

FRATERNAL RELATIONS WITH METHODIST BODIES.

Henry J. Fox, A. Webster, James R. Rosemond, V. H. Buckley, J. C. Emmerson.

CONFERENCE EXAMINATIONS.

1st Year.—W. F. Parker, S. Weston.

2d Year.—Henry J. Fox, A. Middleton.

3d Y ar.—T. Whittier, J. B. Middleton.

4th Year.—A. Webster, V. H. Buckley.

For Admission into Travelling Connection.—Presiding Elders.

Local Deacons.—Committee First Year.

Local Elders.—Committee Second Year.

To preach Conference Sermon, Greenville, 1872.-- A. W. Cummings, E. W. Jackson, alternate.

To preach Missionary Sermon, Greenville, 1872.—Henry J. Fox, V, H. Buckley, alternate.

The following were Admitted on Trial:

July Harris, Lisbon Johnson, Jerry McCloud, James Brown, Jas. A. Brown, Scipio Greene, Mitchel A. Beaty, Peter Swearinger, Paddy Mitchel, James A. Curtis, Hezekiah Brown, Peter McCrary.

The following were Continued on Trial:

M. K. Holloway, A. D. Walker, L. Roper, Daniel Minus, Burrel James, J. E. Lowery, W. Evans, Sheldon S. Lawton, Morris Stewart, Absalom Cooper, James Chatman, F. W. Sasportas, Joshua Gunett, Charles T. Hopkins, B. L. Roberts, George Grey, Joseph Simmons, Dock Owens, Joseph B. Payton, Samuel Simmons, Elijah Carlisle, Absalom Thompson, R. A. Fletcher, Isaac Mazyck, Shephard Dunham, Tarlton Camp, Ephraim Smith, Isaac Adams, James Wagener, J. E. Hills, Simon Welch, Edward Sabie.

The following were Received into Full Connection:

Alexander Devose, Joseph Howard, March Sturks, J. E. Wilson, Lemuel Arthur, John Boston, Stephen Jett, Thomas Evans, Lewis Rivers, Albert Ross, Thomas Sowell, L. Duncan, Francis Smith.

DEACONS

Ordained by Bishop Simpson in Wentworth Street Church, Charleston, December 31, 1871:

Lewis Rivers, Joshua E. Wilson, jr., Limerick Warren, Wesley Dargin, Mitchell Harrington, Stephen Scarborough, Scipio Brisbane, Edward Snyral, Stephen Jarvis. Christopher Lucas, Aaron Rivers, Jeffrey Pendegrast, Henry Daniels, March McCutchen, Benjamin Brown, James Hayne, Cato Waring, Adam White, Rob't. Mitchell, Samuel King, James A. Curtis, John E. Hills, Mitchell H. Beatty, Simon Welch, Jerry McCloud, Peter Wright, Hezekiah Brown, Edward Sabie, Simon P. Hoskins.

ELDERS

Ordained by Bishop Simpson, assisted by several Elders, in the Old Bethel Church, Charleston, December 31, 1871:

Jackson Welch, Henry Walker, Richard Small, Isaac Johnson, Thomas Holsendorff, Benj. L. Roberts, Joshua E. Wilson, jr., Lemuel Arthur, July Harris, Frederick W. Sasportas, Alexander Devose, Simon P. Hoskins, Joseph Howard.

APPOINTMENTS FOR 1872.

Charleston District.

A. WEBSTER, PRESIDING ELDER.
(Post office, Orangeburg, S. C.)*

Miss. Col.
Charleston: Centenary, Henry J. Fox, † (P.O. Box, 109.)
Old Bethel
Wesley Chapel,
Mount Pleasant, to be supplied.
Beaufort, J. G. Thompson
John's Island, to be supplied
Ashepoo, to be supplied
Wadmalaw and John's Island, Francis Smith
Horry, (Post office, Georgetown, S. C.) Z. Duncan.
Waccamaw, to be supplied
Branchville, Thomas Phillips
Edisto Forks, Lisbon Johnson
Barnwell, (Post office, Bennaberry, S.C.) L. Arthur
Blackville and Aiken, (Post office, Medway, S. C.) A. Middleton. 264
Allendale, D. Minus.
Orangeburg, to be supplied
* Where no special Post-office is named, it is to be presumed that the name of the appointment

^{*} Where no special Post-office is named, it is to be presumed that the name of the appointment is the name of the Post-office.

Camden, E. M. Pinckney, J. Brown.	iss. Col.
Columbia, V. H. Buckley.	14
Lynch's Creek; John Boston	100
Sumter, Burrel James, one to be supplied.	550
Maysville, John Burroughs.	000
Lynchburg, Stephen Jett.	254
Timmonsville, Waiters McIntosh	139
Florence, Joshua E. Wilson, Jr	389
Effingham and Blackcreek, F. D. Smith	14
Marion, William Darrington, M. K. Holloway	280
Marr's Bluff, S. Lawton	100
Darlington, J. B. Middleton	258
Cheraw, R. J. Donaldson, J. E. Lowery,	197
Bennettsville and Society Hill, Jerry McCloud	242
Oro, S. W. Hampton	63
Jefferson, T. Sowell.	50
Bull Swamp, July Harris.	50
E. W. Jackson, agent Congressional Temperance Society, member of Charleston Quarterly Conference.	
Claffin University, A. Webster, President.	

Summerville District.	
J. A. SASPORTAS, PRESIDING ELDER.	
Summerville, F. W. Sasportas	234
Round O, John Mitchell	47
Cypress Circuit, James Haynes	37
St. Paul's, Lewis Rivers	166
Cattle Creek, (Post office, Reeves Station) Morris Stewart	110
Mount Holly and Goose Creek, William Evans	166
Enoch Station, Henry Daniels	16
St. Andrew's, J. C. Gibb (supply).	-0
10 Miles Hill, Sarco Greene (supply)	
Black River, James Chatman.	
Walterborough Station, Cristopher Lucas.	287
Walterborough Circuit, Aaron Rivers.	
Hickory Hill, Dennis Rivers (supply)	

[†] The names in Italics are Elders.

Cedar Swamp, Absalom Cooper
Borough Church, Jeffrey Pendergrast (supply)
Cedar Swamp, Absalom Cooper
Chester, to be supplied. Chester, to be sup
St. Stephen's and Gourdine's, A. D. Walker
Cooper River, Thomas Evans
Rimtoul, Cato Waring. St. John's, Joshua S. Garrett. W. B. OSBORN, Presiding Elder. Post office, Jacksonville, Fla. Jacksonville, C. S. Manniguilt
St. John's, Joshua S. Garrett. St. John's District. W. B. OSBORN, Presiding Elder. Post office, Jacksonville, Fla. Jacksonville, C. S. Manniquilt
W. B. OSBORN, PRESIDING ELDER. Post office, Jacksonville, Fla. Jackson Trinity, to be supplied. Greenville, Benj. L. Roberts. Greenville Circuit, to be supplied. Reedy River, George Grey. Saluda and Macedonia, Dock Owens, Scipio Greene. Shady Grove and Old Pickens, Isaac Muzyck. W. B. OSBORN, PRESIDING ELDER. Post office, Jacksonville, C. S. Manniguilt. Jackson Trinity, to be supplied. Greenfield, Peter McCray. St. Augustine, Joseph Howard. Ocalla and Wesley Chapel, Peter Wright, R. Mitchell. Ocalla and Wesley Chapel, Peter Wright, R. Mitchell. Ovange Creek, H. Brown. St. Augustine, Joseph Howard. Ovange Creek, H. Brown. Ovange Creek, H. Brown. St. Augustine, Joseph Howard. St. Augustine, Joseph Howard. Ovange Creek, H. Brown. St. Augustine, Joseph Howard. St. Augustine, Joseph Ho
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Greenville District. TRUE WHITTIER, Presiding Elder. Greenville, Benj. L. Roberts. Greenville Circuit, to be supplied. Ocalla and Wesley Chapel, Peter Wright, R. Mitchell. Orange Creek, H. Brown. Shaluda and Macedonia, Dock Owens, Scipio Greene. Shaluda and Macedonia, Dock Owens, Scipio Greene. Shaluda and Macedonia, Dock Owens, Scipio Greene. Shaluda and Gld Pickens, Isaac Muzyck. 47 Micanopy and Fort Crane, Benjamin Garmond. 50
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Greenville, Benj. L. Roberts
Greenville Circuit, to be supplied
Reedy River, George Grey
Saluda and Macedonia, Dock Owens, Scipio Greene
New Pickens, to be supplied. Shady Grove and Old Pickens, Isaac Muzyck
Shady Grove and Old Pickens, Isaac Muzyck
Walhalla and Choy, R. A. Fletcher. Gordon and Freedom, Henry Walker
Tugaloo, to be supplied Fernandina, William J. Salmond 53
Pendleton, Charles T. Hopkins
Anderson, to be supplied
Mulwee, Samuel Simmons
Seneca, Elijah Coilish
Mt. Sinai, to be supplied
Golden Grove and Moore's Chapel, Joseph Simmons 100
Williamston and Belton, J. B. Peyton
Abbeville and Edgefield, Absalom Thompson
Newberry, to be supplied.
Spartanburg, A. W. Cummings
Spartanburg Circuit, W. F. Parker
Silver Hill, Tiger, Rio and Fair Forest, J. R. Rosemond, J. A. Gainsville, M. H. Beaty
Brown, (Post office, Spartanburg)
Union, to be supplied. Archer, Isaac Davis Levinville, J. Welch.
Macedonia, James K. Wagoner. 42 Columbia, Isaac Johnson, A. Rivers. 75

Pleasant Plain and Pineville, Jackson Welch	5
Liberty Hill, Alexander Devose	48
Newnansville, T. Holsendorf	98
Samfuluska, Wm. Doby.	
Lafayette, R. Small	25
Cornell's Pond, Danlel Wade (supply)	35
Free Canaan, Waldo (P.O.) and Stark, E. Ferguson	46
Mansfield French, transferred to N.Y. East Conference.	
Simon P. Huskins, transferred to Georgia Conference.	
Joseph Garrison, transferred to New Jersey Conference.	
J. C. Emmerson, Supernumary without work, member of Jack-	
sonville Quarterly Conference.	

SYNOPSIS OF JOURNAL.

FIRST DAY.

The South Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church met in Centenary Church, Wentworth St., Charleston, December 27, 1871, at 9 A. M. Religious Exercises by Bishop Simpson, the presiding officer.

The roll was called, and, on motion, Henry J. Fox was appointed Secretary, with V. H. Buckley and E. M. Pinckney, as Assistants.

The Standing and Special Committees were appointed; various communications received and appropriately referred; and after the examination of character, Brother Sasportas conducted religious exercises, and the Conference adjourned.

In the evening, True Whittier preached the Conference Sermon in the Wentworth Street Church.

SECOND DAY-THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28.

Conference opened at 9 A. M. Religious exercises by J. C. Emmerson.

The session was taken up in the examination of character and other "minute" business.

It was ordered, on motion, that our delegates to the next General Conference be instructed to request the division of the Conference, so as to leave the work in Florida as a Conference by itself.

There was a statistical session in the afternoon, at which Brother Jackson presided. In the evening Wentworth Street Church was filled to overflowing. Memorial services were conducted by Bishop

Simpson. Addresses were delivered by S. Weston on the life and labors of Rev. J. Hamilton; by J. Garrison on those of Rev. Geo. Newcomb; and by Dr. Webster on those of Rev. T. W. Lewis.

At the close of the services a chaste and costly tablet, placed by our Charleston congregations by the side of the Wentworth Street pulpit, was unvailed.

THIRD DAY-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29.

Session opened by religious exercises by Brother Thompson. Bishop Simpson presiding.

The Candidates for admission into full connection were examined before the Conference, and addressed by the Bishop. The usual minute business was attended to; Benediction pronounced by Dr. Barrows; and the Conference adjourned.

FOURTH DAY—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30.

The Session opened at the usual hour. Religious exercises by E. W. Jackson, Bishop Simpson presiding.

There was a joint session of the lay delegates, and ministers.

An address of welcome was delivered by Dr. Webster and Bishop Simpson, and responded to by Henry Cardoza, Esq.

Delegates to the General Conference were elected; characters examined; and elections made to deacons' and elders' orders.

Conference adjourned.

On Sunday, the deacons were ordained by Bishop Simpson in Wentworth St. Church, after a sermon by Dr. Barrows. The elders were ordained by Bishop Simpson, assisted by several elders in Old Bethel, after a sermon by Dr. Fuller.

FIFTH DAY-MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 1872.

Session opened at the usual hour by J. A. Sasportas. Bishop Simpson in the chair.

The various committees reported; various resolutions were passed; and the Conference adjourned to meet in the afternoon.

At the Evening Session, which was presided over by Dr. Cummings. The appointments were read; and, after a most harmonious and profitable Session, at 5 o'clock the Conference adjourned sine die.

During the Session, the Conference was favored with the several visitors, among whom we note, with extreme pleasure, Dr Fuller, of the "Methodist Advocate"; Dr. Barrows, of Atlanta; Dr. R. S. Rust, of the Freedmans' Aid Society; Rev. Mr. Bolles, American Bible Society; Rev. Mr. Patton, Presbyterian Church; Rev. Mr. Ford, Congregational Church; Rev. Mr. Brown, and several other ministers of the A. M. E. Church; Brothers Fisher and Huskins, of the Georgia Conference. Also the Hon. F. A. Sawyer, U. S. Senator; Major Townsend; E. W. Sell, Esq.; J. D. Geddings, Esq.; N. Retter, Esq. Some of these visitors addressed the Conference, and their presence added greatly to the pleasure and profit of all our brethren.

It was determined, on motion, that the next Session be held in Greenville. Time to be fixed by the Bishops.

REPORTS.

The Stewards of the South Carolina Conference beg leave to report the amount needed to meet the claims of the Widow, Orphan, and necessitous cases, is not answered.

The Stewards have collected from Chartered Fund \$30 00	0
Collections on Circuits and Stations	0
 \$36_00	- 0

The Stewards have disbursed the above as follows, viz.:

Widow J. White	\$5	00
Widow J. Hamilton		
Widow T. W. Lewis	5	00
Scipio O'Rea	5	00

S. W. Hampton	5	.00
J. Snetter	9	00
W. Salmond	3	00
January Felder	3	00
-		00

Respectfully submitted.
S. WESTON, Ch'm Stewards.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 29, 1871.

The Auditing Committee beg leave to report: That they have examined the appropriations and disbursements of the Presiding Elders, and find the following correct:

MISSIONS.

 A noble result; and had the city remained healthy, and business continued prosperous, this District would have exceeded the sum asked for.

To the Summerville District was apportioned \$350. This District raised \$451—one hundred and one dollars more than asked for. This for the year is the Banner District of the Conference.

The Greenville District was greatly disturbed during the year, some of the charges broken up, and on others the preachers were greatly restricted in their work. To this District was apportioned \$440. The collections amount to \$226.

The St. John's District was of course deranged somewhat by the absence and lamented death of the Presiding Elder, our dear Bro. George Newcomb. The assessment for Missions was \$330. The preachers report \$190.

The Suwanee District was assessed \$185; there was paid \$142—leaving but \$43 deficient—a fine result on this new District under the circumstauces.

Your Committee recommend and urge a faithful and energetic working of the admirable system of the Church as found in the Book of Discipline, as the best plan for keeping up and increasing our collections for Missions. The next year's apportionment must be fully paid.

Your Committee recommend that the month of November, or much earlier, as the members of the Conference please, be designated as the time for making our collections for Missions. The details of the amounts collected are appended.

Respectfully submitted.

A. W. CUMMINGS, Chairman.

EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education beg to report:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Of the various interests brought under your consideration, there is not one exceeding in importance that of Education. It is to us, especially at this pregnant epoch in our history a vital one. As a Church, we have always recognized the intimate connection subsisting between-the School, the Seminary,

the College, and the Church. To plant and control the one, is to enlarge and enrich the other. If we would give stability to the walls of our Zion; if we would build up her wa te places, and cast her glorious life-giving shadow on all lands and peoples; we must see to it that, in the spirit of our founder, we take hold of childhood, and get control of the minds of opening manhood and young womanhood, and mould both so that they shall carry always, and every where, the unmistakable stamp of Methodistic piety.

Your Committee believes, with the fathers of the Church, that it is the bounden duty of every Methodist preacher to "teach and talk," as well as pray and preach. If there is a work in which the man of God can engage outside the altar free from condemnation; nay, that will entitle him to the special approval of the Master for whom he toils; that work is found when he pours, or is the means of others pouring into youthful minds around him streams of puri-

Your Committee deem it to be the special and most urgent duty of the day and land in which we live, to give our young people an opportunity of elevating themselves by scholastic attainments. And whilst it is not beneath our vocation, but pre-eminently in accordance with it, that we found and encourage public primary schools, it is specially our duty to urge young persons to prepare themselves for teachers, and see that all to whom a call to preach the Gospel has come, prepare for their life-work, by laying a broad and substantial foundation of knowledge, such as can only be laid by those who are

Your Committee recognize with gratitude the success and growth of the CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY. During the last term 150 Students have been in attendance. The premises and buildings have been greatly improved during the year, involving a large outlay of money The Faculty has been increased; so that now the Board of Instruction constant.

A. Webster, D.D., President.

REV. G. WHITNEY, Prof. in Theological Department.

PROF. H. McKinney, A. M., Classical Department.

PROF. W. H. CROGMAN, Normal Department.

MISS ALICE WEST,
MISS ORPHIA DENNISON, } Preparatory Department.

A fine piano and organ are in use in the Musical Department.

Though attention is given to the theological training of young men to some extent, and also to the training of teachers in the Normal Department, still your Committee feel that these important interests have not the prominence which their relation to our work demands; and they cannot but hope that the day will soon come when all primary instruction will be left to others, and that our special work will absorb all the energies and means of this noble institution.

Your Committee beg to urge upon the Presiding Elders the duty of prevailing upon our local preachers to attend this school, even though it be only for a few of the winter months. And they would also lay it upon the conscience of every preacher in charge of a circuit, that he send to this institution as many of the older children of the people committed to his care, as can possibly command the pittance required to defray the small charges thereby incurred.

A. WEBSTER.

CHURCH EXTENSION.

The Committee to whom was referred the cause of Church Extension report as follows:

Suitable houses for the public worship of God are necessary in promoting the work of the Church. Bush arbors, school houses and public halls may serve a temporary purpose, until houses of worship can be built, but they can never supersede or supply the place of churches. Our societies cannot continuously prosper without churches. The demand for these is imperative. To build them is of the utmost importance. We rejoice in the liberality and enterprise of our people in aiding themselves in this respect; and, as ministers, we will continue to give them our best counsels and efforts in this direction. We, as a Conference, urge our people where they are destitute of church privileges, to select such points as are most central, where the largest congregations can be gathered, and build houses of worship of some sort as soon as possible. Log churches are better than none; but wheresoever practicable let neat and attractive houses be built of frames or brick, We insist that all of

our churches when built should be kept scrupulously clean and free from the stains of tobacco. They are God's houses, erected especially for his worship, and should be sacredly preserved for that use, and made as inviting as circumstances will allow. While we would not encourage the people in building so expensively as to embarrass themselves with debt, we do advise them to erect churches in the best style within the range of their ability.

The Church Extension Society has rendered us great assistance in many places, for which we are thankful. The great want felt throughout our Conference is that of more and Letter churches. We ask all of the aid from the Society that it is able to give; and will endeavor to use the assistance thus rendered with economy, and with a view to the best results. As an expression of gratitute to the Society, as well as in the performance of an acknowledged duty, we will take the collection for this cause in all of our charges, and endeavor to meet the full claims of the Society upon this Conference.

Your Committee call the attention of the Conference to the importance of reorganizing the Conference Board of Church Extension, agreeable to the plans of the Society, and of working in all of our movements in harmony with the Society. The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

- 1. Resolved, That we arge our people to continue to build churches as fast as possible, and in the best style in their power, with the largest liberality and personal sacrifice.
- 2. That we will present the claims of the Church Extension Society on all of our charges, and take collections for the same during the next year.
- 3. That we now organize our Conference Board of Church Extension, by the appointment of the following officers and managers, viz.:

A. Webster, President.
True Whittier, Vice President.
A. W. Cummings, Secretary.
V. H. Buckley, Treasurer.

Managers.

Ministers.—J. A. Sasportas, J. C. Emmerson, N. Webster, H. J. Fox, Thomas Wright, Thomas Phillips.

Laymen.—H. Cardoza, Isaac La Roache, Hon. Wilson Cook.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Committee, on Sunday-Schools beg leave to report: That they believe this branch of the work may be strictly regarded as the nursery for the Church; and that the subject should be ventilated by the pastors in their various congregations.

They consider that in this department lies the germ of the future success of our Church; and as He who spoke as never man spake, said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not;" it becomes an imperative duty upon us as his followers to gather the little ones into the fold.

Believing also that early impressions last the longest, we cannot be true to ourselves as Methodists, if comprehending the language of Wesley, who said, The world is my parish; we do not place ourselves in direct communication with the infantile mind through the medium of the Bible.

Resolved, 1. That we regard with thankfulness the interest manifested in this branch of our work by the Sunday-School Union.

- 2. That the preachers be requested to preach a special sermon to their various charges in behalf of the Sunday-School Union, and take up collections in aid of the same.
- 3. That we regard the Berean Series as peculiarly adapted to the wants of the more advanced pupils, and one of the best mediums of enforcing Bible truth. BENJ. L. ROBERTS. Chairman.

FREEDMENS' AID.

Your Committee, appointed to report in reference to the Freedmens' Aid Society, beg leave to submit the following:

That we highly appreciate the establishment of the Freedmens' Aid Society by our Church, inasmuch as it has done a great work in our Conference, and is still sustaining a noble corps of professors and teachers at the Classin University at Orangeburg, S. C.

We welcome among us the very efficient Secretary, R. S. Rust, D. D., who has for many years been a true friend to the cause of freedom and education.

We earnestly desire that his labors may be continued, and that he may be nobly sustained by the Church in carrying forth the great work.

V. H. BUCKLEY, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE REPORT.

In the consideration of the subject now before us, we are met with the following terrible array of facts on the very threshold. In this country there are 29,000 distillers, making every year 72,500,-000 gallons; 130.000 places where strong drinks are sold; and in these places not less than 300.000 persons are employed. Our National Government is receiving an annual revenue of \$61,800,000. The cost of liquors to the American people is no less than \$1,500,-000,000. This amount squandered for the support of this fearful business would give the sum of \$43 to every man, woman and child in the country every year. So great has this traffic become, that it constitutes one-eighth of the trade of the nation. As a result of this business, 75,000 drunkards' graves are filled every year; 200,000 paupers are made, which have to be supported at a cost of \$35,000,000. These, Brethren, are some of the facts we are called upon to consider. That we may in some measure meet our responsibilities as Christian ministers, we recommend the passage of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That it is the imperative duty of every Christian minister to entirely abstain from the use of all that will intoxicate.

2. That we will preach to our people frequently on this subject, warning them of the terrible evils which will result from the sale and use of strong drinks.

And whereas the Bible condemns the use of all intoxicating drinks, Therefore Resolved

3. That we will bring this subject before our Sabbath-Schools and have all the officers, teachers and children, so far as we can, sign the following pledge:

I solemnly promise to abstain during the period of my actual life from all that can intoxicate.

E. W. JACKSON, Chairman.

BIBLE CAUSE.

The Committee on the Bible Cause beg leave to report:

Your Committee regrets to learn that there is a great destitution of the Holy Scriptures in some parts of our Conference.

It is matter of the profoundest astonishment to your Committee that any considerable destitution of the Sacred Scriptures should exist in the country, when the Gospel has been preached for nearly two hundred and fifty years, and when the press is free from imperial restrictions and legal disabilities.

But your Committee is happy to report a respectable collection for the membership constituting the pastor's charges of this Conference, as follows. viz.

Charleston District	\$1	00
Summerville District	2	5 0
Greenville District	2	50
St. John's District	อ้	00
Suwanee District	2	70
Total	\$ 13	70

The Committee is of the opinion that a copy of God's blessed word—the Bible—should be placed in every family.

Therefore be it

77

Resolved, 1. That each preacher, as soon as practicable, after reaching his field of labor, ascertain as nearly as possible the number of Bibles necessary to supply the deficiency in the bounds of his pastoral charge, and report the same to his presiding elder.

- 2. That the presiding elders be requested to co-operate with the Bible Agent of South Carolina, and procure Bibles from him to supply the before-mentioned destitution.
- 3. That the collections for the Bible cause be promptly forwarded to the Agent. And that the members of this Conference tender to the Rev. E. A. Bolles, Agent of the American Bible Society for the State of South Carolina, their most devout thanks for those courtesies and liberalities afforded our preachers, in supplying their people with the word of God.
- 4. And that each preacher, the ensuing Conference year, have a special appointment to preach on the distribution of the Holy Scriptures to each congregation in their respective charges, and raise a collection for the Bible cause.

W. F. PARKER. Chairman.

THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

The Committee on the State of the Country beg leave to report:

By God's merciful providence, assembled in our Annual Session to review the past, and to counsel for future labors in the great work of "spreading scriptural holiness over these lands," we cannot fail to acknowledge the good hand of our heavenly Father, which has been over us, to guide and shield us amidst the toils, dangers and trials of the past year. It is known to this Conference, and more or less to the whole American people, that portions of the territory occupied by our ministry have been greatly disturbed during the past year.

Our schools have been broken up; in some instances our churches destroyed; and many of our people, and the friends of our Zion, subjected to indignities and outrages unparalleled perhaps in the history of any Protestant Christian country. Some of our ministers have been threatened with violence and death.

Rev. Thos. Wright, of Yorkville Circuit, while quietly prosecuting his pastoral duties was attacked in his dwelling, and only escaped death by leaping from a rear window and concealing himself. His wife was abused and his furniture destroyed. For several months he was unable to visit his country congregations. For weeks the family of Dr. Cummings never ventured to undress, or all sleep at the same time; some of them watched while others sought unquiet repose. On the night of the 18th of last March the members of thirty "dens," by order of the grand chief of Spartanburg County, were to have made a raid upon the town of Spartanburg, he, with all other white republicans were to have been murdered if found, if not found their dwellings were to have been burned; but God sent his angels and stopped the lions mouths. The arrival of Lieut. Miller, in charge of a small company of U.S. troops, caused a postponement of the execution of this order. Rev. Dr. Fox, of the Oro circuit, was compelled for weeks to forsake at night his dwelling and take refuge in the woods; two men confessed to being parties · to a plan to assassinate him with others. Rev. True Whittier, Presiding Elder of the Greenville District, was unable to visit a number of his charges to hold his quarterly meetings. Rev. J. R. Roseman was unable, during the whole of the winter of 1870-71, to attend his country congregations in Spartanburg County; a number of his people were most brutally whipped. Rev. Lewis Thompson, pastor of the African Zion Methodist Church, was whipped, his person terribly mutilated, then he was murdered and thrown into the Tiger River. Many of our church members, and other quiet, unoffending citizens, including men, women and children, during the coldest and most inclement weather of the past cold winter, were compelled to escape from their dwellings and seek protection at night in the forest and old fields around them. Persecution for opinions, in the Roman Catholic countries of the old world during the 16th and 17th centuries were not uncommon. But who would have believed that, in free America, amidst the light and glory of the 19th century, scenes of violence and bitter persecutions were to be witnessed, equaling in atrocity the bloodiest acts of the Spanish Inquisition?

We ascribe it to God's grace, and the timely interposition of the strong arm of our National Government, that many of the members of this Conference did not, during the year, fall martyrs to the cause of free opinions, and free speech, in the exercise of those rights conferred by heaven, and guaranteed to the humblest citizen by that noble charter of liberty, the United States Constitution, which secures to all the privilege of thinking, speaking and acting for themselves unrestrained, so long as they infringe not the right of others to enjoy the same heaven-bestowed advantages.

The practical operations of these bands of lawless, disguised men, who, under the shroud of darkness, at midnight's lonely hour, violently assaulted men and women in the sanctuary of their peaceful yet perhaps humble homes, and inflicted upon them stripes, wounds, and in a number of instances death, is subversive of all law, of personal, social and religious freedom.

As ministers of Christ, "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds." We may not, at the head of armies, or in the Senate or the Forum, seek to correct these abuses, or protect ourselves and our fellow-sufferers. Yet we may, in our appropriate sphere, and in the discharge of our heaven-appointed duties, as the ambassadors of Christ, most effectively labor to secure peace, liberty and fraternity amóng all ranks and classes in society. The evils that we have suffered during the last year have their origin in the igno-

rance of the mind, and in the wickedness and the deep depravity of the heart. Our work is to teach; we may perform it in the pulpit, around the fireside, in the streets, and in the social circles, we may co-operate with, and when circumstances require, lead our fellowcitizens in erecting school houses, establishing common schools, sabbath schools, academies and colleges. In a land of school houses the material out of which to construct "the Invisible Empire" could not have been found; but in communities where one-half of the people can neither read nor write, it is generally not difficult to enlist recruits in a bad cause. But to teach is not our only work. We are to baptize; that is, evangelize and bring men under the restraining and sanctifying influence of the gospel. A practical recognition of Divine truth, and especially an experimental acquaintance with the transforming power of that truth, will at once and for ever cure those peculiar evils suffered by the people of the upper counties of this State. Let us labor then for extensive powerful revivals of pure religion as the best remedy for the social evils among us; and if we die, let us die like Stephen, calling upon God. Your Committee are happy to believe that this reign of terror in South Carolina is past. The power of the Government has again been recognized, and those laws enacted for evil-doers and for the protection of the innocent will be enforced.

HENRY J. FOX, Chairman.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, 1. That we, the members of the South Carolina Conference M.E. Church, in conference assembled, tender our most sincere and christian thanks, for ourselves and our people, to the chief magistrate of this great nation, President U. S. Grant, for that timely interposition of the national arm, which, under God, has been so very conducive to our protection and the promotion of our Redeemer's kingdom.

2. That we as a Conference regard this day, Jan. 1st, 1872, with gratitude to the great Head of the Church, as the Anniversary of Emancipation of nearly four millions of human beings, and we as a body still hold the author of freedom, President Abraham Lincoln, in the most grateful remembrance.

3. That the above resolutions be forwarded to his Excellency President U.S. Grant, by the officers of this Conference.

W. F. PARKER. E. W. JACKSON.

Resolved: That it affords us great pleasure to bear testimony to the great work being done by the Congressional Temperance Society, by the distribution of tracts in simple words and thoughts, and that we earnestly request this society to allow their agent, Rev. E. W. Jackson, to spend as much of his time among us the coming year as he can consistent with his other duties.

Resolved: That at the next session of our Conference, the Bishop presiding be requested to administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, in connection with the opening religious exercises.

JANUARY FELDER. THOMAS PHILLIPS.

- Resolved, 1. That the thanks of this Conference are hereby tendered to the Christian people of this city who have extended to us such a generous hospitality during our present session. Especially do we thank the ladies for their labors in our behalf.
- 2. That as ministers we have been much gratified by the marks of Christian love and fraternal regard extended to us by the pastors of various churches in this city, in inviting us to fill their pulpits on last Sabbath, and we will earnestly pray for God's blessing upon all these ministers and churches, that Heaven's special blessings may attend them during the year, and they may win many souls to Christ.
- 3. That we tender our thanks to the various Railroad and Steamboat Companies of this State, who have passed the members of the

Conference, and visitors, to and from the seat of the Conference at reduced rates of fare.

4. That the foregoing resolutions be published in the papers of this city.

A. W. CUMMINGS. V. H. BUCKLEY.

Resolved: That we sincerely thank our Presiding officer for the interest so affectionately manifested toward us, and also for his impartial services rendered during our session, and we earnestly invoke the blessings of heaven upon him, praying that he may be spared many days to labor in his parish.

J. B. MIDDLETON.

MEMOIRS.

Died at his residence in Charleston, S. C., November 11th, 1871, Rev. John Hamilton, in the forty-sixth year of his age.

When he was twenty years old he was converted, and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a zealous member, and considered no sacrifice too great if he might but win souls to Christ. He was a man of earnest and strong faith, a believer with all his heart. He ran all risks, he dared all consequences, he lost sight of everything except his duty.

In course of time he was made a Class Leader, and continued as such until he read God's will in the great events around him; then he felt he was called to labor for God in a higher sphere. He thought of his poor perishing brethren of the neighboring islands who were destitute of the knowledge of that word which was able to save their souls. He reasoned not with flesh and blood, but trusted that he who promised to bless a cup of cold water to the good of the giver would smile upon his feeble efforts, and eventually make him as a star that shineth in the firmament for ever and ever.

Laboring in a malarial region, and exposed to heat and rain, he contracted fever, which left him with other disorders resulting in his death. In his sickness he was "in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart and to be with Christ With the words of his friend and brother upon his lips, "I am on the Rock," he sweetly passed from time to the everlasting home of the blessed. His death is a great loss to his flock and to the Conference. An afflicted wife and six children mourn his irreparable loss.

W. O. WESTON.

Died of yellow fever in Beaufort, S. C., October 12th, 1871, Rev. George Newcomb, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

Brother Newcomb was born in Quincey, Mass., November 8th, 1814. Upon arriving at manhood he devoted himself to teaching, which vocation he followed for many years. In 1856 he was licensed as a Local Preacher; and ever afterward, as opportunity

was presented, preached Jesus and his power to save sinners. In 1864, impelled by a sense of duty, he came to Beaufort, S. C., to labor among the freedmen in the canacity of Superintendent of Schools, which place he filled with efficiency and success in parts of both North and South Carolina. He labored faithfully and with much zeal for the mental, moral and spiritual culture of the children and youth under his care. In 1867 he united with the S. C. Conference, and was appointed to Beaufort Circuit, where he remained for three successive years. He was ordained Deacon in 1867, and Elder in 1869, by Bishop Janes, and received into full connection in the Conference. While laboring in Beaufort Circuit he organized several societies on the Combahee River and Ladies Island.

He knew from experience what privations and hardship meant: but bold in the strength of God he braved storms of opposition, surmounted difficulties, and in the pine lands and river bottoms as well as in the town, his voice was heard heralding forth the words of truth and soberness. Scores of souls, through his instrumentality, were brought to a saving knowledge of Christ. He felt for suffering humanity wherever found, and his ears were ever open to their cry, as they gathered from all quarters seeking his counsel. He was free from all prejudice on account of race or color. He occupied a large place in the hearts of those to whom he ministered, and many will be the stars in his crown of rejoicing.

At our last annual conference he was made Presiding Elder, and assigned to St. John's District, Florida. During the summer he went north, by the advice of his physician, for his health. He returned to Beaufort about the 1st of October, preached once, and fell a victim to the fearful fever then so prevalent. As he neared the River of Death he was peaceful and happy; his faith shrunk not even when his life was fast ebbing away. He said to a friend a short time before his expiring moments, "My work is done, I am going home to heaven." With this testimony, and many other cvidences of his faith in Christ, he passed into the spirit-land. Peace be to his memory! While the Conference sustains a great loss, our dear brother leaves a heart-stricken widow and four children to mourn his departure from earth. May the eternal God uphold hem, and be their refuge in affliction.

Rev. T. W. Lewis was born in Royalstown, Massachusetts, Aug. 6th, 1825, and died of yellow-fever in Charleston, S. C., Sept. 30th, 1871. He was the son of Timothy and Sally Lewis, and the fifth of nine children. His father was a leading member of the M. E. Church, and his eldest brother Rev. J. W. Lewis, has been for many years one of the efficient members of the New England Conference.

The subject of this notice was from his childhood remarkable for great activity and force of character. He never lacked enterprise to begin a work, and seldom failed to accomplish it, and seemed fitted for a leader, the position he was accustomed to occupy among his young associates. His benevolent and social qualities were early developed. In early life he was fond of pleasure and not studiously inclined.

In his seventeenth year circumstances conspired to lead him to turn with loathing from a life of folly, and try the realities of the Christian religion. Here he found true pleasure and a more congenial scope for the elastic and generous impulses of his nature. This event changed the whole current of his life; he immediately took to his books, improved his time, and religion became to him ever after a joyous reality and the book of his Master the delight of his heart. In the spring of 1842, he joined the M. E. Church in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. He prepared for college at Wilberham, and subsequently entered Union College, one year in advance. At the end of the third year in his college course he was persuaded to leave college, and enter upon the active duties of the Ministry. In 1849, he joined the New England Conference and was stationed at Leicester. At his second Conference appointment at Hopkinton, he formed an acquaintance with the Hon. Lee Classin. This shrewd observer of human nature did not fail to detect and appreciate the noble qualities of the young preacher, and his confidence in his pious integrity and good judgment led not only to an intimate acquaintance, but induced the generons patron of worthy benevolent enterprises to co-operate with Brother Lewis, by the donation of funds that were easily invested for the cause of God, and the interests of humanity. Mr. Lewis subsequently rendered valuable service to the church at Clinton, Marlboro, Waltham, Benington street churches, east Boston; Hopkinton and Laurel street churches,

Worcester. In these fields of labor he was successful, and left many seals to his Ministry.

In the fall of 1862, under an appointment from Bishop Janes he came to South Carolina in December 1862. Before the opening of Charleston he labored in Beaufort, establishing a church there, and traveling quite extensively in Florida, doing valuable service for our cause. He entered Charleston at its first opening, and remained there during the summer of 1865, laboring as far as in his power to supply the means of grace to the multitudes who were left as sheep without a shepherd. His hands were filled with abundant labors for the cause of Christ.

When Bishop Baker sent some one to aid him in the work in the city, he entered upon the toilsome and difficult work of organising Churches in the country.

At this time the railroads of the State were sadly out of repair, and some of them had been suspended, and this rendered uncertain and diversified the means of travel, and subjected him frequently to great expense and inconvenience. He was obliged, to use his own term, to travel, not merely on horseback, but "footback," with carpet-bag in hand. But, notwithstanding these disadvantages, he traveled from the seaboard to the mountains, organising churches in Greenville County, two hundred and seventy-five miles from Charleston.

He traveled upon the Charleston district for three years following the organisation of the South Carolina Conference, and was then placed in charge of the Churches of Charleston, in which he was continued until the close of his earthly labors. When urged to leave the city on the approach of the sickly season, he replied that he felt it his duty to remain, and that he should rather do his duty and die, than shirk and live. In this he exhibited that devotion to his work that characterised his labors.

It would seem that Providence had been kindly preparing him for the great change he was soon to experience. When he returned from the last session of the South Carolina Conference to his third year of pastoral labor in the city, he remarked that he was going to preach that year as he had never done before; and those who heard him were made to feel that his resolution was verified in the fresh zeal and pathos that glowed in his pulpit efforts.

He was often heard to refer to the fact that the present was his last year of labor in Charleston, and it was then thought that he referred to the expiration of the Conference term of service; but since this unexpected termination of his earthly labors, the impression is strongly felt, that on his own heart was the premonition of this call of the Master to rest in heaven. Our congregation in Columbia will not soon forget his last sermon there, on the occasion of his recent visit, in which he had for a text "Jacobs Ladder," and for a theme, the intercourse between heaven and earth. It was then felt that he was near in spirit and communion with those who are dwelling in the tearless realms of that "beautiful world."

It was only at the earnest entreaty of his leading brethren that Mr. Lewis could be persuaded to leave Charleston, even for a short period, while the fatal fever was raging. They felt that his life was too precious to them and the Church, to be thus periled by this exposure to malady. But his removal was too late to accomplish the object sought. The first attack of the fever was not so violent as in ordinary cases, and from this he seemed, in due time, partially to recover. But his system had been too thoroughly depleted of vital force for a final rally from the attack. He sank under the influence of a fatal relapse. When nearing the margin of the cold river he seemed tranquil and composed. The firm basis of his immortal hope was unmoved, and he was heard to say, "Still on \{ the Rock." Some of those sweet hymns he rang so often in life, seemed more than ever beautiful and precious to him in death, and he joined in singing, "Rock of Ages," "Forever here my rest shall be," etc., after which he repeated, "Wash me, and make me thus thine own.

He wanted his friends to sing, "When I survey the wondrous (cross," saying it was his favorite hymn, and pointing upward, he asked. "Do you not see the cross?" He left his love for many of his friends. He remembered the name of Classin, sending his love to the Governor, with a request that he would continue to do for the colored people. He referred affectionately to the city Churches he had been serving as pastor, and when trying in broken terms, to express his wishes, his wife said. "Shall I tell them that you want them to hold together, to love one another, and try and carry out the principles you have taught them?" "Yes, yes, just that," he replied

His deeply afflicted widow, who was by his side all through the trying scenes of those last hours, says: "I cannot tell all the precious little words he said. It all seemed that he was resting in such sweet peace in the Everlasting Arms. His hands were folded, and a sweet smile on his face. His mind seemed to dwell on the Saviour's love, and to trust Him fully, which I know he did. In short," she says, "it was a sweet death-bed scene, and a privilege to be there, even though our hearts were-well nigh breaking. It was quite on the verge of heaven. He kept saying over the sweetest name on mortal tongue, 'Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.' Then we sung:—

'How sweet the name of Jesus.'

He joined but caught at the verse,—

'Dear Name, the Rock on which I build My shield and hiding-place,'

And until he could speak no more, he kept talking about the Rock. A few moments before he ceased breathing, he revived, looking around upon us, and smiled more sweetly, and passed from us forever."

Thus ank to rest one of God's laborers; thus a star of earth, made luminous by grace, has not waned in darkness, but disappeared amid the brighter radiance of heaven. Few graves have ever been moistened with a richer tribute of tears than the turf that covers the mortal remains of our departed brother. No such funeral procession ever before wended its way to the famed Magnolia Cemetery. It is true that in its long line there was no regal pomp, or glitter of military parade, or gorgeous trappings of wealth, no empty show or artificial magnificence, so often seen in the funeral cortege of the rich; but the thousands who joined in that solemn march were prompted by true affection for the dead. An impulse of irrepressible sorrow drew them on to follow a friend and a brother to a spot to be made ever dear and sacred to them by the deposit of his mortal remains. It was the funeral procession of grief-smitten mourners, who gave the involuntary offerings of tears and tender recollections which wealth could never purchase, nor the making up of pretended sorrow ever imitate.

Rust, D.D., Cincinnati, O.; H. J. Fox, Charleston; Rev. V. H. Buckley, Columbia; R. S. Whittier, Greenville; Hon, Henry Cardozo, Camden.

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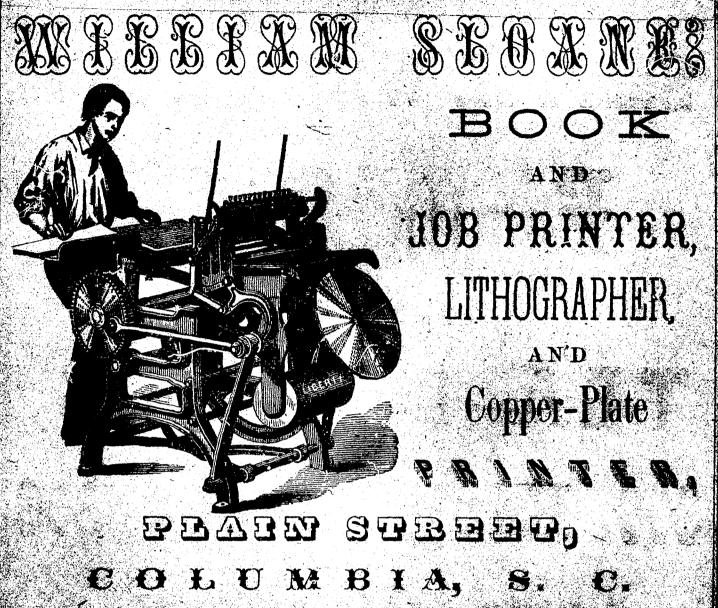
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