

CLOSING SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE

Appointments for the Year Read by Bishop Fowler.

FIRM STAND ON CUBAN QUESTION

Conservative Policy of President McKinley Endorsed—If War Comes the Clergymen Will Pray That the Conflict May Be Sharp and Decisive. Officers and Committees Appointed. The General Resolutions Adopted Expressed the Thanks of Members of the Conference to Bishop Fowler.

Special to the Scranton Tribune. Norwich, N. Y., April 18.—The last session of the Methodist Episcopal conference began at 8 o'clock this morning with prayer. The bishop opened the business session, then left the chair to H. M. Crydenwise. Reports were called and approved. The most interesting one submitted was the following by E. B. Olmstead:

We are in the midst of critical times. There are many problems of social and civil importance looming large on the horizon of public interest. But just now the question of the strained relations between this country and Spain, growing out of Spanish misrule on the island of Cuba, has assumed proportions so vast and portentous as to overshadow and for the time being to absorb all other questions of national moment. There are many who assert that war is inevitable. Certain it is that we seem to be near the verge of war, with all its horrors and far-reaching consequences, than has been before in a third of a century. Our national house of representatives has already passed a resolution authorizing armed intervention, and the senate a resolution declaring Cuba "free and independent." An agreement between the two houses, which may amount to a declaration of war, or some other act of national importance, may precipitate a clash of arms, among the most improbable events of the next few hours. The causes which have led to this deplorable, but, so far as we are concerned, unavoidable condition of affairs, have been completely stated as follows:

CAUSES OF THE TROUBLE

"The government of Spain for three years past has been waging war on the island of Cuba, against a revolution of the inhabitants, and without making any substantial progress towards the suppression of said revolution, and has conducted the warfare in a manner contrary to the laws of nations, by means of inhuman and unprovoked, causing the death by starvation of more than 200,000 innocent non-combatants, the victims being for the most part helpless women and children; by the wanton destruction of the commercial interests of the United States, involving the destruction of the lives and property of many of our citizens, entailing the loss of millions of money in patrolling our coasts and positing the high seas in order to maintain our neutrality; and this long series of losses, injuries and wrongs, for which Spain is responsible, has culminated in the destruction of the United States battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana, and in the death of our countrymen."

"I cannot remain indifferent to the pitiable sufferings and agonizing down-trodden, suffering, starving Cuban neighbors. All the dictates of justice and humanity demand a cessation of the abhorrent condition of our country, and that that intolerant island. We are convinced, however, that no satisfactory and abiding peace for Cuba can be secured until the cause of our country and permanent withdrawal of Spain as a governing power from that island. We believe this result should be attained by peaceful measures if possible, but if not, by the exercise of force as a last resort."

SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITIES

"We recognize the fact that these grave conditions impose upon the chief executive of the nation the most serious responsibility, and we take occasion to endorse the wise and patriotic course of a conservative policy of President McKinley, who, in spite of the loud clamors and hostile criticisms of the turbulent and hot-headed, has persisted in his endeavors to settle the pending difficulties in some peaceable way consistent with the honor, dignity and conscience of the nation. If war comes, we believe matters have so shaped themselves that we can enter upon this struggle, as an able and conservative senator has said 'with the sanction of international law, with the sympathy of all humane and liberty-loving nations, with the approval of our consciences, and with the certainty of the approving judgment of history.' In the event of war we trust the outcome will again vindicate the truth of the old adage, 'Thrice armed is he who hath his quarrel just.' If war comes, we will pray that the conflict may be short and decisive, that the nations concerned may again engage in the bloodless activities of commerce, and that the result may be in harmony with the best principles of our nineteenth century civilization, and the sublime precepts of the Gospel of Christ."

Edwin B. Olmstead, Secretary.

THE NOMINATION OF OFFICERS FOR CONFERENCE SOCIETIES WAS AS FOLLOWS:

- Committee on Examinations—Chairman, G. A. Place; register, Justin F. Warner; W. H. Alger, E. R. D. Briggs, A. F. Charles, G. A. Cure, W. Priddy, J. C. Johnson, G. H. Prentiss, W. H. Hiller, M. D. Fisher, J. H. Little, Justin F. Warner, H. H. Olmstead, J. H. Rice, H. L. Kitchener, L. E. Sanford, H. A. Greene, J. B. Clark, R. P. Ripley.

BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION—J. N. SHIRMAN, C. H. NEWING, W. H. HILLER, JOHN WENTZ, W. H. ALGER, J. H. LITTLE, S. E. THORPE, C. H. BARKER, W. H. HILLER, E. SANFORD, S. GUY SNOWDEN, PIERCE BUTLER.

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SKIN-TORTURED BABIES

And rest for tired mothers in a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, and a single application of CUTICURA (ointment), the great skin cure. CUTICURA Reddeners afford instant relief, and point to a speedy cure of torturing, disfiguring, humbling, itching, burning, bleeding, crusted, scaly skin and scalp humors, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. Prices here and elsewhere. Cuticura Soap, 25c. Cuticura Ointment, 50c. Prepared by J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass., U.S.A.

Rev. C. H. Winter, G. A. Cure, A. J. Cook, E. G. Nolen, John Seacord, C. M. Sordam, William Priddy, Henry Lees, G. R. Clark.

NEXT MISSIONARY SERMON.

The following list was submitted and approved: To preach missionary sermon, G. A. Cure; alternate, H. B. Benedict.

Missionary Society—President, Samuel Moore; vice president, T. T. Ace; secretary, V. B. Ripley; treasurer, J. B. Cook. Temperance—President, L. C. Mirdock; vice president, A. H. David; secretary, E. R. D. Briggs. Board of control, presiding officers, permanent committee of conference auxiliary to the general conference committee on temperance, C. A. Benjamin, J. P. Hill, M. S. Goodhall, J. H. Little, H. L. Hiller.

Education—President, L. J. Sprague; vice president, E. B. Olmstead; corresponding secretary, S. Guy Snowden; recording secretary, W. B. Simpson. Tract Society—President, H. M. Crydenwise; vice president, C. B. Henry; secretary, C. M. Olmstead; treasurer, A. W. Cooper.

Free Men's Aid and Southern Education Society—President, J. H. Rice; vice president, C. H. Sackett; secretary, M. D. Fisher. Board of control, presiding officers, permanent committee of conference auxiliary to the general conference committee on temperance, C. A. Benjamin, J. P. Hill, M. S. Goodhall, J. H. Little, H. L. Hiller.

For Local Deacons and Elders Orders—C. H. Newing, C. H. Sackett, H. A. Williams, A. D. David, S. O. Terry, W. Treible. Conference Board of Church Extension—E. B. Olmstead, president; M. W. Scott, vice president; T. W. Russell, secretary; W. M. McLellan, treasurer; G. Johnson, G. B. Person, W. H. Stillwell, directors; presiding elders ex-officio members.

District Missionary Secretaries—E. B. Moore, H. C. McDermett, D. W. Nicholson, A. A. Place, S. Moore, H. M. Crydenwise, Travers of Appeals—E. L. Santos, Thos. Harroun, T. Kilpatrick, G. O. Heers, A. W. Cooper and J. C. Leacock.

PREACHERS' AID SOCIETY.

A discussion regarding the report of the stewards of the Preachers' Aid Society then came up. Dr. Griffin made a statement, in which he spoke strongly of the great interest felt in this project by Mr. William Connell, and that it is to be feared if no agent is employed that further subscriptions will fall off. He urged greater effort toward increasing the fund. A resolution was adopted expressing the appreciation of the conference for the excellent work done by Dr. Van Cleft as agent, and it was finally decided that he should continue to receive satisfactory reports during the coming year. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we greatly enjoyed the administration of our presiding bishop, and also have been edified by his addresses and sermons, and

Resolved, That we express our thanks to our beloved Bishop Fowler, D. D., L.L.D., for his eloquent sermon and instructive addresses and for the firmness and courtesy with which he has presided over our conference.

Resolved, That we record our appreciation of the cordial reception and kind hospitality given us by the pastor of this church and his congregation and all others who have contributed to make our stay so pleasant.

Resolved, That our thanks are due the Delaware, Lakawanna and Western railroad, the Delaware and Hudson railroad and the New York, Ontario and Western railroad for the excellent service rendered all in attendance at our conference.

Resolved, That our unanimous thanks are given our dear brother, the Rev. J. A. Parker, for his course of historical theology in Drew Theological seminary, for his excellent and most timely lectures delivered before the conference as a gratuity.

Resolved, That our thanks are due and are hereby given the newspapers, especially the Norwich Star, for the excellent reports given of our conference.

Resolved, That our thanks be given the various departments of conference work for the careful manner in which they have performed their duties and for the many courtesies shown by them.

J. B. Davis, President. G. N. Underwood, Secretary.

BISHOP'S LAST ADDRESS.

Previous to the reading of the appointments Rev. H. C. MacDermott offered prayer. The bishop made a brief address to the clergy in the course of which he deprecated the low salaries paid in so many cases and said that they were lower than 11 years ago. The sessions closed with the benediction by the bishop. The appointments were as follows:

WYOMING DISTRICT

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ONE ON GRANT.

One evening as General Grant was sitting in front of his tent, General Canby came to have a chat with him, and was followed by the dog, which sat down in the usual place at its master's feet. The animal squatted upon its hind quarters, licked its chops, pricked up its ears, and looked first at one officer and then at the other, as if to say: "I am General Grant's dog, and you are you?" In the course of his remarks General Grant took a look at the animal, and said: "Well, General, what are your real intentions in regard to that dog? Do you expect to take it into Richmond with you?" General Canby was noted for his dry humor, replied with mock seriousness and an air of patience: "I hope to; it is said to come from a noble breed." This remark, coupled with the comical attitude of the dog at the time, turned the laugh upon the general, who joined heartily in the merriment. The dog seemed to enjoy the joke as much as any of the party.—General Porter in the Century.

QUEER OPTICAL ILLUSIONS.

Extraordinary Experience of the Officers and Crew of a French Bark off the Philippines. Examples of collective hallucinations are very numerous. Let us cite one that certainly is not generally known, and of which a lieutenant in the French navy, M. Lestonnat, was the victim. "In May, 1881," said he, "I was on board the bark Caroline. We had just left Iloilo, in the Philippines, and were voyaging toward the Sunda Strait. One morning we were moving slowly, at the rate of about four or five knots, in a very light wind, when the man on the lookout shouted to me that he saw a prodigious shark on the starboard quarter. Everything that we saw at sea, however insignificant it is interesting. Consequently, I placed myself in a position to see the object that the man reported. But, on account of the lower sails, I was obliged to go forward. From there I saw, at about two points in starboard, the prodigious, which seemed as if she was about to cross our bow. Suddenly the mate shouted: 'It is not a prodigious; it is a yawl boat.' Then the sailor came down from the rigging and reported that he saw distinctly a man standing in the boat and that he was making signals. 'It is not necessary to be aloft to see that,' replied the mate. 'I can see him distinctly here.'"

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EXPECTATION.

The summer song is sounding, faintly sweetly, far away, And the skies are mirroring June-time as she hastens, fond and true, To give when her hearts keep time from day to day. As we lie to sleep the sorrows that cried on the winter through, We are waiting for the roses that will nod about the door; And the sunbeams that will kiss them while they linger through the hours; For the white-blossomed, humming-birds will prove for sweets once more, And the dew will rest like jewels on the bosoms of the flowers.

YET, GOOD AS ARE THESE THINGS, HOPE POINTS A PROSPECT FAR MORE DEAR.

And tells how weary faces shall grow brighter, like the skies, when by want and care shall reappear. More radiant than the blooming which, alas, so quickly dies. For I'd rather hear than all the sylvan birds that lightly trill "The white-blossomed humming-bird, where the white-hot iron flows; Far better than the song of bees, the buzzing of the mill, And the momentary breath is sweeter than the perfume of the rose." —Washington Star.

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- C. H. Hayes, P. E. Norwich, N. Y. Beaver Meadow—N. Y.—To be supplied, Castle Creek—N. Y.—C. M. Olmstead, Chenango Fork—N. Y.—J. F. Jones, Chenango Center—N. Y.—E. P. Eldredge, Coxsack—N. Y.—W. H. Horton, Elmston—N. Y.—W. Lowry, Garrattsville—N. Y.—J. N. Wilson, Gilbertsville—N. Y.—Robert Clark, Greene—N. Y.—H. A. Alger, Guilford—N. Y.—H. Wood, Marathon—N. Y.—E. D. Harrison, McDougall—N. Y.—L. D. Mendenhall, Morris—N. Y.—T. H. Palmer, Mt. Upton—N. Y.—W. T. Blair, New Berlin—N. Y.—M. L. Andrus, North Ferris—N. Y.—M. D. Mattoon, North Norwich—N. Y.—L. C. Palmer, Norwich—N. Y.—Samuel Moore, Oxford—N. Y.—J. H. Little, Plymouth—N. Y.—Albert Clarke, Preston—N. Y.—J. H. Hart, Rockledge—N. Y.—H. B. Davis, Sherburne—N. Y.—Thomas Harroun, Smyrna—N. Y.—J. W. Davis, South New Berlin—N. Y.—W. W. Waiters.

ONEONTA DISTRICT.

- Austin Griffin, P. E. Oneonta, N. Y. Arton—N. Y.—J. H. Thomas, Baldwinsville—N. Y.—C. H. Sackett, Cooperstown—N. Y.—P. Ripley, Cooperstown Junction—N. Y.—F. A. Matteson, Jr., Deerpont Center—N. Y.—C. D. Shepard, Decatur—N. Y.—W. S. Adams, E. Worcester—N. Y.—W. M. Shaw, Ferrisburgh—N. Y.—C. E. Sweet, Fly Creek—N. Y.—E. L. Pease, Harpersville and Nineveh—N. Y.—A. C. Oiver, Hartwick—A. D. Finch, Laurens—N. Y.—G. A. MacChesney, Lansboro—D. C. Barnes, Masonville—N. Y.—Joshua Brindle, McClure—N. Y.—J. H. Weston, Middlefield—N. Y.—H. Singer, Milford—P. P. Parsons, Mt. Vernon—P. B. Miller, N. Sanford—N. Y.—E. N. Sabine, Oneonta—N. Y.—H. C. McDermott, Oswego—N. Y.—E. J. Quinlan, Otsego—N. Y.—E. J. Larrabee, Santara Springs—N. Y.—C. B. Prentiss, Schenectady—N. Y.—N. B. Ripley, Sidney—N. Y.—W. J. Hill, Shiloh Centre—N. Y.—C. N. Reynolds, Unadilla—N. Y.—S. Compton, White Bridge—N. Y.—E. C. Pease, Westford—N. Y.—George N. Cherkwood, Windsor—N. Y.—M. S. Goodhall, Worcester—N. Y.—H. A. Green.

OWEGO DISTRICT.

- George Forayta, P. E. Owego, N. Y. Appleton—N. Y.—C. A. Broadbent, Ayer—G. A. Cure, Barton—N. Y.—E. Hunt, Berkshire—N. Y.—M. P. Paere, Campburtown—J. B. Wilson, Candor—N. Y.—T. H. Warnock, Canby—N. Y.—E. J. Quinlan, Elmingtonville—N. Y.—Carl Conciniani, Harford—N. Y.—S. H. Flory, Harborside—G. O. Boers, Kayville—E. E. Quimby, Littlefield—A. L. Brown, Little Meadows—W. H. Stone, Lockwood—N. Y.—S. A. Tracy, McDonough—James Schaefer, Middletown—H. L. Ellsworth, Newark Valley—N. Y.—J. B. Cook, Nichols—N. Y.—J. Smith, N. Ticonderoga—N. Y.—E. D. Galpin, Sionsville—N. Y.—D. H. Griddle, Spencer—N. Y.—J. H. Griddle, Ticonderoga—N. Y.—W. H. Womersley, Waverly—N. Y.—W. Nicholson, West Danby—N. Y.—T. H. Roberts, Windham—N. B. Keeney, Wyalsburg—A. J. Cook, M. S. Hoad, assistant corresponding secretary of board of church extension—Member of Kingston quarterly conference.

EXPECTATION.

The summer song is sounding, faintly sweetly, far away, And the skies are mirroring June-time as she hastens, fond and true, To give when her hearts keep time from day to day. As we lie to sleep the sorrows that cried on the winter through, We are waiting for the roses that will nod about the door; And the sunbeams that will kiss them while they linger through the hours; For the white-blossomed, humming-birds will prove for sweets once more, And the dew will rest like jewels on the bosoms of the flowers.

YET, GOOD AS ARE THESE THINGS, HOPE POINTS A PROSPECT FAR MORE DEAR.

And tells how weary faces shall grow brighter, like the skies, when by want and care shall reappear. More radiant than the blooming which, alas, so quickly dies. For I'd rather hear than all the sylvan birds that lightly trill "The white-blossomed humming-bird, where the white-hot iron flows; Far better than the song of bees, the buzzing of the mill, And the momentary breath is sweeter than the perfume of the rose." —Washington Star.

NO ONE CAN AFFORD TO MISS HAVING A SILK DRESS AT THE PRICES QUOTED HERE.

We Will Girdle the City With Silks.

Wednesday Morning at 9 O'Clock

WE WILL BEGIN the Greatest Sale of Silks that Scranton has ever known. Marching orders has been given to the entire stock---just as it rests on the shelves. We have made prices on these goods that absolutely command the attention of the Great Buying Public. We place before you a Magnificent Stock---Complete and Beautiful---and we give you the opportunity to buy a Silk Dress at about what, ordinarily a cotton one would cost. Every article is exactly as advertised, as to quality, actual worth and remarkable selling price. Not a Piece Will Be Sold at the Prices Quoted Before Tomorrow Morning at 9 O'Clock, as we want everyone in Scranton and vicinity to have an equal chance at these bargains.

Colored Silks.

- At 29c yd 500 yards of Taffeta Finished all-silk Habutai, in stripes and brocaded effects. All the new Spring colorings. Positively worth 50c per yard.
- At 50c yd A superb assortment of Taffetas for street and evening wear, in fancy changeable and brocaded effects. All pure silk and positively worth 90c yard.
- At 67c yd Plain and changeable Taffetas, superb grade, rustling quality. All the nobby colorings. Positively worth 85c yard.
- At 76c yd High class fancy and Novelty Silks in plain stripes, Taffeta raye, ombre effects, graduating stripes, Barre plaids with the rich satin stripe and rich Brocades in Roman designs---absolutely the richest and most delicate effects for evening gowns and separate waists. Positively worth \$1.25 yard.
- At 19c yd 500 yards of Habutai Wash Silks in fancy stripes---just the thing for Summer waists. Positively worth 35c yard.
- At 55c yd 400 yards of French Foulards, strictly pure silk and guaranteed not to slip or pull threads. All styles and colorings. Positively worth \$1 yard.
- At 72c yd 1500 yards of Colored XX Satin Duchesse, pure silk and in a splendid variety of the most exclusive Spring colors. Positively worth \$1.00 a yard.
- At 91c yd 1150 yards of very rich Bayadere Stripes in street shades; also elegant brocaded silks and satins for house and evening wear. These goods are in lengths of from 2 to 20 yards, and are the bargain of the year. They are positively worth and have sold readily at \$1.50 and \$2.00 per yard.

Black Silks.

- At 39c yd 540 yards of Black Japanese Habutai, Lyons dye, fully 29 inches wide, and positively worth