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PHILADELPHIA NORTH PRESBYTERY

BY REV. WILLIAM P. WHITE, D.D.

PART I

Following the reunion of the Old and New School branches of the Presbyterian Church in May, 1870, a reorganization of judicatories took place.

By direction of the Synod of Philadelphia, the ministers and churches in connection with the counties of Bucks and Montgomery, and that part of the City of Philadelphia north of Allegheny Avenue were constituted into a presbytery to be known as the Presbytery of Philadelphia North. Twenty-four of these churches had belonged to the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia, Old School; eight to the Fourth Presbytery of Philadelphia, New School; one Solebury, now Thompson Memorial, belonged to Raritan Presbytery, New Jersey, and one, Morrisville, to the Presbytery of New Brunswick, New Jersey, of the Synod of New Jersey. The new presbytery was declared to be the legal successor of the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia.

This Presbytery, covering the same territory, had existed since 1832. Previous to that time its churches belonged to the General Presbytery of Philadelphia, from the date of the organization of the General Assembly in 1788. For twenty-six years previous to that event, or since 1762, they had belonged to what Dr. Murphy in his work, "The Presbytery of the Log

College," asserts to have been the First Presbytery of Philadelphia in distinction from the Second. The period preceding, from 1741 to 1758, was the period in which the Church was divided into Old and New Sides, and the older churches of our present territory, notably Neshaminy, Newtown, Norriton and Providence, Deep Run, Abington, and Bensalem, belonged for ten years to the Presbytery of New Brunswick and for eleven years to the Presbytery of Abington, of the Synod of New York.

In accordance with the directions of the Synod of Philadelphia, heretofore referred to, the churches and ministers indicated by it, met the morning of June 23, 1870, in the Spring Garden Church, where Synod was in session, on Eleventh Street near Spring Garden Street, consolidated in 1892 with the Columbia Avenue-Fairmount Church, under the name of the McDowell Memorial Church.

Rev. S. T. Lowrie had been appointed to preside until the election of a Moderator.

The following ministers and ruling elders were present: Rev. Messrs. S. M. Andrews, H. S. Rodenbaugh, Roger Owen, Joseph Beggs, Jacob Weidman, S. T. Lowrie, J. Ford Sutton, J. H. Symmes, J. C. Thompson, J. H. M. Knox, M. H. Calkins, J. B. Krewson, M. B. Grier, G. H. Nimmo, W. I. Ijams, and Elders: John Mower, Lower Providence; John Deal, Frankford; Andrew S. Jamison, Solebury.

Prayer was offered by Rev. S. T. Lowrie. Rev. Joseph Beggs was elected Secretary. Rev. H. T. Ford was elected Moderator, and Rev. Joseph Beggs Stated Clerk.

Mr. Ford, it seems, was not present, and Mr. Lowrie was appointed to preside until he should appear.

The first regular meeting of the Presbytery was held October 4th, in the Lower Providence Church.

The following were the churches included in the Presbytery with the names of their pastors or stated supplies:

Norristown First.....	Job R. Halsey, D.D.
Conshohocken	John H. Symmes
Doylestown and Deep Run.....	Silas M. Andrews

Norriton and Providence.....	Henry S. Rodenbaugh
Chestnut Hill.....	Roger Owen
Newtown.....	George C. Bush
Kenderton.....	A. V. C. Schenck
Frankford.....	Thomas Murphy
Neshaminy.....	Douglass K. Turner
Falls of Schuylkill.....	Joseph Beggs
Abington.....	Samuel T. Lowrie
Springfield.....	George H. Hammer
Hermon.....	J. Ford Sutton
Norristown Central.....	Henry T. Ford
Pottstown.....	John C. Thompson
Bridesburg.....	Wm. A. Jenks
Jeffersonville.....	Charles Collins
Germantown Second.....	Wm. E. Ijams
Bristol.....	Jacob Weidman
Neshaminy.....	Gershon H. Nimmo
Huntingdon Valley.....	Thomas C. Anderson
Market Square, Germantown.....	Edward P. Cowan
Forestville.....	Jacob B. Krewson
Germantown First.....	J. Fred Dripps
Manayunk.....	Vacant
Roxborough.....	Vacant
Bensalem and Newportville.....	Vacant
Plumsteadville S. S.....	Rev. Benjamin C. Carroll
Norristown Second.....	Vacant
Durham.....	Vacant
Morrisville.....	Sunday School
Lower Merion.....	Vacant
Holmesburg.....	Vacant
Port Kennedy.....	Vacant

In addition to the pastors and stated supplies thus named, the following ministers were included in the Presbytery: Jacob Helfenstein, D.D., Hugh N. Wilson, D.D., John L. Janeway, D.D., Matthew Meigs, M. B. Grier, D.D., J. Grier Ralston, D.D., J. H. M. Knox, D.D., Charles H. Ewing, John Moore, F. R. S. Hunsicker. In all there were thirty-five ministers and thirty-

four churches. The number of communicants reported to the General Assembly of 1871 was 4541.

The only minister present at, and joining in, the organization of the Presbytery, and remaining still a member of it, is Rev. Jacob B. Krewson, the honored Treasurer of Presbytery for forty-seven years. Only two others are still living: Rev. S. T. Lowrie, D.D., a member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and Rev. M. H. Calkins, D.D., of the Presbytery of Huntingdon.

Of the churches named, Durham later ceased to exist through lack of any members; and Plumsteadville was dissolved in 1889 at the request of the few left in the organization.

At the meeting of the Synod of 1871, Kenderton Church (later named Tioga), petitioned for such a change in the boundaries between the presbyteries of Philadelphia Central and Philadelphia North that the Kenderton Church might be connected with Philadelphia Central. The petition was granted, and Erie Avenue instead of Allegheny Avenue was made the boundary between the two presbyteries.

Rev. A. V. C. Schenck, having been transferred from Manayunk Church to Kenderton, was dismissed to Philadelphia Central Presbytery.

The Synod on October 19, 1872, definitely established the southern boundary as follows: "That the boundary line between the Presbyteries of Philadelphia North and Philadelphia Central be as follows: Erie Avenue from the Delaware River to its junction with Nicetown Lane (now Hunting Park Avenue), and thence along Nicetown Lane to the Schuylkill River."

The same Synod, October 19, 1872, adopted the following: "And the boundaries of the Presbyteries of Chester and Philadelphia North are so changed as to include in the Presbytery of Chester all that territory in the township of Lower Merion, Montgomery County, which lies east of Roberts road and south of the Gulf road, in said township, and which includes the town of Bryn Mawr."

Since the organization of the Presbytery the following additional churches have been organized in the years mentioned:

Carversville, 1871; Wakefield, 1873; Macalester Memorial, 1874; Leverington, 1878; Ashbourne, 1878; Mt. Airy, 1880; Grace, Jenkintown, 1881; Carmel, Edge Hill, 1882; Fox Chase Memorial, 1883; Edington and Disston Memorial, Tacony, 1886; Church of the Redeemer, Germantown; Wissinoming, Langhorne, Lawndale, 1888; Trinity, Chestnut Hill, 1889; Ambler, Oak Lane, Narberth, 1891; Westside, Germantown, Calvary, Wyncote, 1892; New Hope, 1893; Wissahickon, Summit, Germantown, 1894; Penn Valley, 1895; Olney, 1898; Church of Covenant, Cynwyd, 1901; Ardmore, 1907; Ivyland, 1908; Holy Trinity, Logan, 1909; Covenant, Germantown, 1910; Faith, Germantown, 1914; M. Y. Smith, McKinley; Cedar Park, Germantown, 1917.

Thirty-six in all; one more than the number of churches in the original organization.

The period of greatest growth was the five years between 1888 and 1892, inclusive, when eleven new churches were organized. The principal centers of growth have been Germantown and Frankford; eight churches having been organized in the former, and five in the latter.

In 1896 the Synod added to the Presbytery the churches of Berks County, consisting of the First Church, the Olivet Church, and the Washington Street Church (Colored), of the City of Reading. Two additional churches in that city have since been organized and added to the roll of Presbytery, Perkiomen Avenue, in 1915, and Pennside in 1919. The Synod of 1897 rearranged the boundaries of the Presbyteries of Lehigh and Philadelphia North by assigning the county of Berks to the Presbytery of Philadelphia North.

The Overbrook Church at its own request was transferred to the Philadelphia Presbytery, it being within its bounds, in 1904.

There was received from the German Reformed Church in 1886 the Leidytown Church, which five years later, in 1891, was dissolved at its own request.

There have thus been on the roll of the Presbytery since its organization in 1870 the names of seventy-seven churches. The last report names seventy-two as at present on the roll.

The communicants number 25,481, an increase since organization of nearly 21,000, or five and a half times the original number.

A large proportion of the ministers comprising the Presbytery at its organization in 1870 were men of distinction, and a number remained in connection with it until their death.

The first to be removed was Rev. J. H. Symmes, for seven years pastor of the Conshohocken Church. Upon the Presbytery's minutes is recorded an affectionate tribute to his character and fidelity.

The second to be removed by death was Rev. Hugh N. Wilson, D.D., in 1878. He had been pastor of important churches in New Jersey and was a director of Princeton Theological Seminary. For ten years he had resided in Germantown.

The next to be called to a higher service was Rev. James Grier Ralston, D.D., LL.D., founder and principal of Oakland Female Institute of Norristown for over thirty years, chaplain of the Montgomery County prison, and a member of the Presbyterian Board of Publication. He died in November, 1880. He was a scholar of superior abilities. Under his influence over 2500 young ladies received a Christian education, many of whom became home and foreign missionaries.

The next of the original members of Presbytery to be removed by death was Dr. Silas M. Andrews, who passed away in 1881 at the age of 76. His only pastorate was that of the Doylestown and Deep Run congregation, which he served for within a few months of fifty years. He was an able preacher and wise counsellor, of a quiet and unobtrusive disposition, without desire, apparently, for pre-eminence, and was greatly esteemed by the public and beloved by his people. He was, previous to the reunion, Stated Clerk of the Synod of Philadelphia for many years, and Moderator of the reorganized Synod in 1874. He left a record for fidelity to duty, diligence and industry rarely equaled.

The next name to be removed from the roll of the Presbytery was that of Dr. Job F. Halsey, who died in 1882. He belonged to a distinguished ministerial family, having three

brothers of eminence in it. For twenty-six years he filled the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of Norristown, continuing to preach with vigor until eighty years of age, and exerting a remarkable influence in the community.

Two years later, in 1884, another of the aged ministers of the Presbytery, Dr. Jacob Helfenstein, passed away. He was a descendant of a family of ministers. For twenty-seven years he was pastor of the Market Square Church of Germantown, and was remembered with much affection for his fidelity and kindness.

Five years later, on October 10, 1889, Rev. Matthew Meigs, D.D., LL.D., was removed by death. He was a Union Seminary graduate and most of his life was spent in educational work, having been a professor in the University of Michigan, as also in Delaware College and president of the latter. He was the founder of the Hill School for Boys in Pottstown, where he resided for a number of years and up to the time of his death.

The following year, 1890, two others of the original members of Presbytery passed away,—on January 8, Dr. Roger Owen, pastor of the Chestnut Hill Church, who had served it faithfully and successfully as pastor for thirty years and had been pastor emeritus for six additional years. He had also been principal of the Chestnut Hill Academy for five years. He was closely identified with his people and beloved by them, and great harmony prevailed in their ranks.

On May 3 of the same year, 1890, Rev. Henry I. Rodenbaugh, pastor of the Norriton and Providence Church, a rural congregation, for forty-four years, was called from his labors in which for so many years he had been most untiring and diligent, and of which he had enjoyed the fruits in precious revival blessings, which added many souls to the Master's cause. Thus it will be seen that during the first twenty years of the life of the Presbytery nine of its distinguished and faithful members were removed by death.

Following 1890 no deaths of original members of the Presbytery occurred for nearly eight years. Then inside of a few years seven of those most active and influential for years in

the work of the Presbytery were removed to higher spheres of labor.

The first of these was Rev. Gershom H. Nimmo, for twenty-one years, from 1870 to 1891, pastor of the Church of Neshaminy at Warminster, and from 1891 to his death in February, 1898, of Macalester Memorial at Torresdale.

The same year there passed away the Rev. Charles Collins, for twenty years from 1866 the Stated Supply and the pastor of the Centennial Church of Jeffersonville, and previous to that a supply of the Second of Norristown and Manayunk Churches. He was widely known as a writer, as an author of hymns, and of works on music.

The next of the seven to be removed by death, April 14, 1899, aged sixty-nine, was Rev. Joseph Beggs, D.D., LL.D., whose whole ministerial life of forty-four years had been spent in the bounds of the Presbytery and its predecessor; thirteen years as pastor of the Roxborough Church, and thirty-five years as pastor, and five years as pastor emeritus, of the Falls of Schuylkill Church. He was also Stated Clerk of the Presbytery from its organization until 1891, twenty-one years.

The following year, 1900, December 26th, Rev. Thomas Murphy, D.D., LL.D., was called from his earthly labors. Like Dr. Beggs, he was a native of Ireland, a graduate of Princeton Seminary, and passed his whole ministerial life within the bounds of the Presbytery and its predecessor. He was forty-six years pastor of the First Church of Frankford and a leader in presbyterial affairs, serving for years as chairman of the very important Committee of Home Missions, through the agency of which so many churches were organized. He was a member of the Board of Publication, the author of a number of important works, and very influential in securing and carrying to success the celebration within the bounds of the Presbytery of the founding of the Log College. His "History of the Presbytery of the Log College" is a valuable record of the earlier churches embraced in the Presbytery of Philadelphia North and of their former pastors.

Rev. Douglas K. Turner, pastor of one of the Neshaminy

churches from 1848 to 1873, when he felt called, on account of declining health, to resign, was the next to be called from earth. He acted for a time as Secretary of the Presbyterian Historical Society and was the author of researches in local Presbyterian history.

The sixth of the seven, to whom reference was made as having died during the period mentioned, was Rev. J. H. M. Knox, D.D., LL.D., a graduate of the New Brunswick Seminary. His death occurred January 21, 1903. He was from 1853 to 1869 pastor of the First Church of Germantown; from 1873 to 1884, of the Church of Bristol, and from 1883 to 1890, president, and until the time of his death, president emeritus, of Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. He was a very influential member of the Presbytery and his counsels were most highly regarded.

Three years later, on March 21, 1906, Rev. John L. Janeway, D.D., passed away at the age of ninety-one. He, also with Dr. Knox, was a graduate of New Brunswick Seminary. He served the country as a chaplain during the Civil War, and later resided in the bounds of the Presbytery and was faithful in attendance upon the meetings of the body.

Thus it will be seen that of the thirty-five ministers included in the Presbytery at its first regular meeting in the Lower Providence Church in 1870, sixteen continued in connection with it until their deaths, which occurred during the first thirty-six years of the Presbytery's existence. During this time the nineteen others, with the exception of Mr. Krewson, were dismissed to other bodies.

During the first year, 1870, Rev. Benjamin C. Carroll, who had been supplying the Plumsteadville Church, was dismissed to New Brunswick Presbytery, and Rev. W. J. Ijams' relation as pastor of the Second Church of Germantown was dissolved and he was dismissed to the Davenport Congregational Association of Iowa.

In 1871 Rev. G. H. Hammer, former pastor of the Springfield Church, was dismissed to Lehigh Presbytery, and Rev. C. H. Ewing, former pastor of the Roxborough Church, to Chester Presbytery.

In 1872 Rev. M. B. Grier, D.D., for a number of years prominent as editor of *The Presbyterian*, was dismissed to Philadelphia Presbytery.

In 1873 there were five dismissals of original members as follows:

Rev. M. H. Calkins, who had been pastor of the Solebury Church, now known as Thompson Memorial, and who is one of the three original members of Presbytery still living, a member of Huntingdon Presbytery, was dismissed to Shenango Presbytery; Rev. Jacob Weidman, having been pastor of Bristol Church and treasurer of Presbytery, was dismissed to Lehigh Presbytery to become pastor of the Brainerd Church of Easton; Rev. John C. Thompson, D.D., who had been pastor of the Pottstown Church, was dismissed to Baltimore Presbytery to become pastor of the Hagerstown Church, Maryland. He was later pastor of the Scotch Church, Philadelphia, and associate pastor of Bethany Church; Rev. J. Ford Sutton, D.D., who had been pastor of Hermon Church, Frankford, was dismissed to Philadelphia Central Presbytery. He afterward became proprietor and editor of *The Presbyterian Journal*; Rev. John Moore, who had been principal of a school at Pottstown, to the Blairsville Presbytery.

In 1874 Rev. S. T. Lowrie, D.D., pastor for some years of the Abington Church, was dismissed to the Allegheny Presbytery, having been elected a professor in the Western Theological Seminary. Later he became a pastor in Philadelphia, where he still resides, being one of the three original members of the Presbytery still living.

In 1877 Rev. George C. Bush, pastor for some years of the Newtown Church, was dismissed to Erie Presbytery, and in 1880 Rev. Thomas C. Anderson, who had been pastor of the Huntingdon Valley Church, was dismissed to the same presbytery—Erie.

In 1882 Rev. E. P. Cowan, for twelve years pastor of the Market Square Church, was dismissed to the Pittsburgh Presbytery to become pastor of the Third Church. Later he became secretary of the Board of Freedmen. The same year, 1882, Rev. J. F. Dripps, for ten years pastor of the First Church

of Germantown, was dismissed to Philadelphia Presbytery and became pastor of Clinton Street Church.

In 1883 Rev. W. A. Jenks, formerly pastor of the Bridesburg Church, was dismissed to Northumberland Presbytery.

In 1884 Rev. Henry T. Ford, for a time in charge of Norristown Central, and the first moderator of the Presbytery, was dismissed to Jersey City Presbytery, and Rev. F. R. S. Hunsicker, for a time in charge at Carversville, was dismissed to Newton Presbytery.

We have thus traced to their death or to their dismissal from the Presbytery thirty-five of the thirty-six ministers who were connected with its beginning. All the dismissals, twenty in number, occurred within fourteen years of the organization of the Presbytery. The deaths extended through a period of thirty-six years, and a number of the older members of Presbytery found themselves surrounded by an entirely new element.

The additions to the Presbytery by certificate from other presbyteries and by ordination were numerous, amounting up to the present time to over 350, or an average of seven each year. Forty-one joined during the first ten years. One of these, Rev. A. W. Long, who was ordained by the Presbytery in 1877, has continued with it ever since, being up to 1886 pastor of the Lower Merion Church, and, since that date, of Springfield Church at Flourtown. He stands second in the Presbytery in length of service.

Another of the forty-one, Dr. L. W. Eckard, is also at present a member of the Presbytery. He joined it earlier than Mr. Long, being pastor of the Abington Church from 1875 to 1891, but was separated from it for fifteen years while pastor of the Brainerd Church in Easton, Pa. Upon being chosen Secretary of the Pennsylvania Bible Society in 1896, he again joined the Presbytery.

Five others of the forty-one, who joined the Presbytery during its first ten years, are still living. They are Rev. W. B. Waller, of Washington, D. C., who was assistant pastor of the First Church of Norristown; Rev. A. A. Dinsmore, of New York, who was pastor of the Bridesburg Church from 1875 to

1887, and was dismissed to Los Angeles, Cal.; Dr. W. D. Roberts, pastor of Temple Church, Philadelphia, who was pastor of Thompson Memorial Church from 1876 to 1881; Dr. W. A. Patton, of Wayne, Pa., who was pastor of the Roxborough Church from 1878 to 1881, and of the Doylestown Church from 1881 to 1890; and Rev. J. W. Kirk, late pastor of the Mahoning Church of Danville, who was pastor of the Ashbourne Church, 1880-1882, and the Leverington Church from 1882 until released in 1899 to go as a missionary to Alaska.

Some others of the first ten years' accession to the Presbytery call for notice. The first two, Archibald McCullough and John Peacock were ordained in 1871. Mr. McCullough became pastor of the Second Church of Germantown, where he remained seven years. Dr. Peacock was a member of the Presbytery at his death in 1906. He served as pastor of the Holmesburg Church until 1895, and the Macalester Memorial from 1898 to 1906. He succeeded Dr. Joseph Beggs as stated clerk in 1891 and served as such until 1896. He was very active as a presbyter and was regarded as a well-equipped parliamentarian and ecclesiastical lawyer. Dr. Charles E. Burns became pastor of the Manayunk Church in 1878, and was transferred to the Bristol Church in 1903, and continued with the Presbytery until November, 1917, the time of his death, which was greatly mourned. He also ranked high among the members for ability and wise counsel. Dr. N. S. McFetridge was the first pastor of the Wakefield Church, serving it most acceptably for ten years from 1874. It was a matter of great regret that declining health compelled him to ask for a dissolution of his relation with the Church.

Dr. A. McElroy Wiley filled with ability the pastorate of the Newtown Church from 1877 to 1888. Rev. J. W. Teal became pastor of the Second Church of Germantown in 1878. He was greatly esteemed by his fellow ministers, as by all who came in contact with him, and it was with much regret that he resigned the charge in 1886, feeling it his duty to accept the call to the important Westminster Church of Elizabeth, N. J.

Rev. S. J. Milliken joined the Presbytery in 1875, and after

acting in the capacity of a missionary for two years, became the first pastor of the Ann Carmichael Church. After six years he was transferred to the Memorial Church of Fox Chase, where he remained until 1891. Rev. W. J. Chichester joined the Presbytery early in 1880, and in May was installed pastor of the First Church of Germantown as the successor of Dr. J. F. Dripps. His youthful ardor and enthusiasm added largely to the membership of the church ere he felt called, five years later, to ask for a dissolution of his relation that he might accept a call from Los Angeles, Cal.

Others who joined the Presbytery the first ten years and remained with it until their deaths were Dr. James R. Eckard, father of Dr. L. W. Eckard; Dr. S. H. Higgins, who resided in Germantown and was the author of "Forty Days, or Nineveh and Its Repentance"; and Rev. Wm. Ottinger, also a resident of Germantown, and a teacher.

Others of the forty-one were J. H. McMonagle, pastor of Manayunk; Henry F. Lee, pastor of Pottstown; W. A. Jenks, pastor of Bridesburg, and also of Norristown Central; Michael Burdett, pastor of Bensalem; Samuel Philips, pastor of Roxborough, and also of Leverington; Henry F. Mason, pastor or stated supply of Springfield, Lower Merion and Norristown Second; Belville Roberts, pastor of Port Kennedy; William Fulton, pastor of Conshohocken; Charles T. Anderson, pastor of Port Kennedy; E. P. Hawes, pastor of Port Kennedy and also of Norristown Central; William Travis and Joel S. Kelley, pastors of Springfield; Yates Hickey, pastor of Port Kennedy; John M. Rogers and M. L. Hofford, pastors of Morrisville; J. J. Cowles, pastor of Huntingdon Valley; Wm. E. Jones, pastor of Neshaminy of Warwick. Most of these mentioned were dismissed between 1870 and 1880.

Jared T. Preston, without charge, died as a member of Presbytery in 1877; J. W. Martin, also in 1883; Samuel Harrison, in 1884, and Wm. H. Adams in 1877. These latter three had been honorably retired. H. L. Rex also died as a member without charge in 1879, and N. L. Upham, without charge, and A. Marcellus, were dismissed to other presbyters.

In addition to the six churches, organized as before men-

tioned between 1870 and 1880, viz: Carversville, Wakefield, Macalester Memorial, Ann Carmichael, Leverington, Ashbourne and Mt. Airy, an effort was made, but without success, to organize one in Quakertown.

As far as I can discover none of the elders uniting in the organization in 1870 are living. Some of them were pillars of strength and added much to the efficiency of the Presbytery in its early period. Thomas Potter, of the Chestnut Hill Church, erected for the Ann Carmichael Church, named after a sister, a fine house of worship, and engaged to contribute \$200 every year for the support of the pastor. William Adamson, an elder of the First Church of Germantown, gave ground for the Wakefield Church and headed the subscription for a church building. He became one of its first elders and to him much of its success in its early years was owing. T. Charlton Henry, father of Dr. Alexander Henry, was an elder of the First Church of Germantown from 1858 and served the Presbytery through its first ten-year period and well into its second, and was very influential. I can testify personally to his liberality toward good causes. Thomas MacKellar, another elder of the First Church, was distinguished for his devotional piety, his ability as a poet, being the author of some of our favorite hymns, and for his many generous gifts to religion and charity. Other well-known elders of the first period of the Presbytery were Enoch Taylor, a high public official of the city; Charles M. Lukens, Wm. Brockie, Frederick S. Kimball, Geo. F. Wiggan, Chas. E. Morgan, Samuel Bradbury, all of Germantown; William Wynkoop, of Newtown; John L. Dubois, of Doylestown; Robert Cornelius, Wm. B. Dixon, of Frankford, and D. K. Hatfield, of Pottstown. General Louis Wagner became an elder during the first period of the Presbytery in 1878. He was elected later, in 1891, the first layman moderator of the Presbytery. He was active in Sunday School work.

The only elders of the Presbytery chosen between 1870 and 1880 now living, as far as I can ascertain, are two. The first, J. C. McCurdy, was chosen in 1874, in connection with the Lower Merion Church, where he served most faithfully for

many years. He is now an elder in the Ardmore Church. The second chosen the same year, 1874, is Francis B. Reeves, elder in the Wakefield Church for forty-five years, and for many years its Sunday-school superintendent and liberal supporter. A third, Wm. H. Scott, still living when this sketch was written, was chosen in 1879, and in the same church, Market Square, Germantown, in which he continued to serve until his recent mournful death, April 12, 1920. He had also been the superintendent of its Sunday School for over thirty-one years and was likewise superintendent at the same time for some years of the Mt. Airy and the Church of the Redeemer Sunday Schools. Both of the two last named churches owed much in their early years to the interest which Mr. Scott took in them and the support he gave them.

In the period between 1870 and 1882, as for some years later, the Presbytery held but two regular meetings during the year. They were opened by a sermon and continued for two days. On the evening of the first day a popular meeting was held. Members of the churches where they met attended and we believe were profited thereby.

(To be continued)

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WILLIAM HENRY SCOTT:

1846-1920

BY THE REV. HAROLD MC A. ROBINSON, D.D.

William Henry Scott was born in Philadelphia on May 4, 1846, of Scotch-Irish parents who remained faithful to the traditions of the Covenanters of Scotland. In 1862, at the age of sixteen, after two years in the Central High School, he entered the employ of Robert E. Evans, wadding merchant, at a salary of \$1.00 a week. At the age of eighteen he became an employee of H. G. Leisenring, Printer. After eight years, on May 19, 1872, the Leisenring Printing House was destroyed by fire. Three days later, with Edmund Allen and Cornelius A. Lane, William H. Scott entered into a co-partnership under the firm name of Allen, Lane and Scott, Printers. Forty-eight years of business history have brought that firm name to honorable recognition in the printing trade. Mr. Scott was the last surviving partner, and it is only natural that "Girard," in the *Philadelphia Press*, should speak of him as a "Master Printer."

At sixteen, he became a communicant of the Fourth Reformed Presbyterian Church. When he was twenty-two he became superintendent of the Sunday school of that church, beginning a connection with the religious education of children and youth which was life-long and to which he unsparingly devoted his time and his talents. At twenty-three he was elected a trustee of the church, and at twenty-eight he

PHILADELPHIA NORTH PRESBYTERY

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PART II *

During the ten years life of the Presbytery from 1880 to 1890 fifty-six additional ministers united with it, the largest number, ten, in the year 1887. The names of ten of these fifty-six are still on the roll of the Presbytery. They are J. H. Boggs, D.D., who joined in 1881; Henry A. MacKubbin and Richard Montgomery, S.T.D., who joined in 1882; W. P. White, D.D., who joined in 1883; D. C. Hanna, D.D., who joined in 1886; C. P. H. Nason and T. R. Beeber, D.D., who joined in 1887; Alexander Henry, D.D., and Louis F. Benson, D.D., who joined in 1888; and J. F. Sheppard, who joined in 1890. Of these, Dr. Boggs has been pastor of two of Presbytery's churches, Hermon, Frankford, which on account of his health he resigned, from 1880 to 1887, and Lawn-dale, of which he is pastor emeritus, from 1889 to 1918. Henry A. MacKubbin was ordained by Presbytery and installed pastor of Grace Church, Jenkintown, in 1882. In 1886 he was dismissed. After serving pastorates in Coatesville, Pa., Elizabeth and Lambertville, N. J., he returned to Philadelphia North in 1910 to become pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, which for reasons of health he has recently resigned. Dr. Montgomery enjoys the distinction of being pastor of the same church, that of Ashbourne, since he was ordained by Presbytery, thirty-seven years ago, and of being the honored Stated Clerk of Presbytery, since June, 1896, twenty-four years ago. Dr. W. P. White was pastor of the Mount Airy Church from 1884 to 1893. He resigned to accept the position of Financial Secretary of Lincoln University, a position which he still holds, and has been the representative of the Presbytery on the Synodical Home Mission Committee for thirty-three years, being the only surviving

*For Part I, see the June number of this JOURNAL.

original member. Dr. Hanna, ordained by Presbytery, has been pastor of two of the churches of Presbytery, Thompson Memorial from 1886 to 1890, and Leverington from 1899 to the present time. Rev. C. P. H. Nason was pastor of the Second Church of Germantown from 1887 to 1891. He was for a time consul of the Government in France, and now resides in Philadelphia without charge. Thomas R. Beeber, D.D., was pastor of the First Church of Norristown from 1887 to 1918, when on account of ill health he felt called upon to resign to the great regret of the Church and the Presbytery. Dr. Alexander Henry was licensed by the Presbytery in 1873, forty-seven years ago. He became pastor of Hermon Church, Frankford, in 1888, and continued as such until called as Secretary of the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work in 1905. Louis F. Benson, D.D., was ordained by the Presbytery in 1888 and was pastor of the Church of the Redeemer from 1888 to 1894, since which time he has given his service largely to the Presbyterian Board of Publication. John F. Sheppard has been pastor of the Church of Conshohocken since 1890, over thirty years.

Only sixteen of the remaining forty-six who joined the Presbytery between 1880 and 1890, and were afterwards dismissed, are believed to be living. They are Rev. R. H. Bent, who was ordained by Presbytery in 1882, and was pastor of the Edge Hill Church from 1882 to 1884; Rev. Wm. S. Barnes, who was also ordained by the Presbytery in 1884, and was pastor of the Huntingdon Valley Church from 1884 to 1887; Rev. H. G. Gleiser, pastor of the Carversville Church from 1885 to 1889; Rev. W. W. Hammond, D.D., pastor of the First Church of Chestnut Hill, 1885 to 1892; Rev. Charles Wood, D.D., pastor of the First Church of Germantown from 1886 to 1897; Rev. R. A. Greene, ordained by Presbytery in 1886, and pastor of Grace Church, Jenkintown, from 1886 to 1894; Rev. Charles A. Oliver, ordained by Presbytery in 1887, and pastor of Roxborough Church from 1887 to 1890; Rev. C. R. Brodhead, ordained by Presbytery, and pastor of the Lower Merion Church from 1887 to 1890, and of the Norriton and Lower Providence Church from 1890 to 1902, and

since then missionary of one of Presbytery's aided churches in Arizona; Rev. P. B. Van Sycle, a member of Presbytery from 1887 to 1889, and stated supply of the Leidytown Church at Chalfonte; Rev. W. P. Fulton, D.D., ordained by Presbytery, and pastor of Huntingdon Valley Church from 1887 to 1890; Rev. Alexander Waddell, ordained by Presbytery and pastor of Conshohocken Church from 1888 to 1889; Rev. H. M. Dyckman, pastor of the Pottstown Church from 1887 to 1906; Rev. Thomas J. Elms, pastor of Newtown Church from 1888 to 1895; Rev. D. S. Clark, ordained by Presbytery and pastor of Wissinoming Church from 1889 to 1894; Rev. Joseph C. Harvey, ordained by Presbytery, pastor of the Macalester Memorial Church from 1890 to 1891, and stated supply of the Roxborough Church from 1896 to 1898; Rev. W. R. Huston, ordained by Presbytery, and stated supply of Summit Chapel, Germantown, from 1888 to 1894. It will be noticed that four of the ten, who joined the Presbytery between 1880 and 1890 and are still connected with it, were ordained by it, and that ten of the sixteen now living, who joined it, and were afterwards dismissed, were also ordained by it.

Of the thirty others, joining the Presbytery during this period, some were pastors of prominent churches and took a leading part in Presbytery, and all except one, Rev. D. W. Woods, Jr., have since died. Rev. W. B. Noble was pastor of the First Church of Norristown from 1881 to 1886. He resigned on account of the health of his wife and went to California and became missionary superintendent of the Synod of California, and later Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly. Rev. J. E. Wright was pastor of the Market Square Church of Germantown from 1883 to 1892. He later became chaplain of the Legislature of Pennsylvania. Rev. Henry D. Lindsay, D.D., ordained by the Presbytery, was pastor of the Thompson Memorial Church during 1883 and 1884, and later of the First Church, Wilmington, Del., Brainerd Church, Easton, Pa., Jamestown, N. Y., and North Church, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Dr. E. P. Shields was pastor of the Bristol Church from 1884 to 1897; Rev. Francis Heyl, of Bensalem and Ed-dington, from 1885 to 1891; Rev. W. K. Preston, of Nesham-

iny of Warwick, from 1885 to 1903; Rev. A. W. Clokey, of Wakefield Church of Germantown, from 1885 to 1888; Rev. D. W. Woods, of Disston Memorial, from 1886 to 1890, and of Wakefield from 1899 to 1892; Rev. J. P. W. Blattenberger, of the Bridesburg Church from 1888 to his death in 1906; Rev. David Wills, D.D., LL.D., of Disston Memorial from 1890 to September, 1891; Rev. D. W. Moore, of the Second Church of Norristown from 1889 to his death in 1899; Rev. Geo. H. Stuart Campbell, of Disston Memorial, 1889 to 1890; Rev. W. Hayes Moore, of the Doylestown Church from 1890 to 1897. Rev. W. W. McKinney, D.D., editor of *The Presbyterian* during this period, was a member of the Presbytery. Rev. A. A. Murphy, son of Dr. Thomas Murphy, was ordained by the Presbytery and supplied Grace Church, Jenkintown, 1878 to 1880, and was pastor of Leverington in 1881 and 1882. Rev. H. B. Stevenson, who was ordained by the Presbytery, was pastor of the church of Pottstown from 1881 to 1887; Rev. W. E. Westervelt, of the Roxborough Church from 1881 to 1886 and stated supply for a year of the Springfield Church. Rev. J. L. Litch was pastor of Norristown Central, 1889 to 1891; Rev. S. R. Queen, of Norristown Second, 1887 and 1888. Rev. A. L. Kelly, Rev. W. Y. Thompson and Rev. E. D. Newberry were pastors for a few years of the Ann Carmichael Church, Mr. Kelly at two different times.

One of the interesting events of the Presbytery during this second decade was the celebration, under its auspices, on September 5, 1889, of the founding of the Log College, not far from the original site, and within the boundaries of the Neshaminy Church. Thousands of people from near and from afar joined in the celebration. Importance was added to it by the presence and addresses of the President of the United States, Benjamin Harrison, and his Postmaster General, John Wanamaker, the Governor of Pennsylvania, Gen. James A. Beaver, and other distinguished personages, both clerical and lay. A member of the Presbytery, Dr. Thomas Murphy, presided; and a full account of it, rendering further description of it here unnecessary, will be found in Dr. Murphy's volume, *The Presbytery of the Log College*.

In the ten years between 1890 and 1900, between ninety and one hundred ministers were received into the Presbytery and their names enrolled. As indicating what frequent changes have taken place we notice that only eleven of these remain in connection with the Presbytery at the present time; nine of them only are pastors, and but six of the same church in which they were first installed.

The first of these to join the Presbytery was Dr. John Calhoun, of Mount Airy, in the year 1892, twenty-eight years ago. He was for two years assistant pastor of the First Church of Germantown, and was installed pastor of the Mount Airy Church in 1896, where his labors have been greatly blessed.

The second to join the Presbytery, among those remaining with it, and the first in length of service in the same church, and, as far as numbers count, in the fruits thereof, was Dr. Wm. Porter Lee. It was twenty-seven years the past January since he was installed as the first pastor of the Westside Church of Germantown, it being also his first charge. The length of his pastorate has exceeded that of any other Germantown pastorate. From a comparatively small membership it has grown under his labors to one of over one thousand.

The next of those remaining in the Presbytery to be received was Dr. J. B. Laird, who was ordained by the Presbytery and installed pastor of the First Church of Frankford, June 20, 1895, twenty-five years ago, the anniversary of which was recently celebrated. He has greatly honored the Presbytery through his labors and his services as director or trustee of many institutions of the Church and as the Moderator of the Synod of Pennsylvania.

The fourth of present pastors, installed as pastor of Trinity Church, Chestnut Hill, in 1896, was Rev. C. C. Tyler, present Moderator of Presbytery. He became stated supply the previous year and has hence belonged to the Presbytery twenty-five years.

Rev. A. E. Stuart joined the Presbytery in 1896, and was installed pastor at Oak Lane; dismissed in 1900, he afterwards returned to become pastor of Neshaminy of Warwick.

Three others united with the Presbytery in 1899, Dr. D. C. Hanna, Dr. W. B. Lower, and Rev. W. H. Wells. Dr. Hanna had been a member of Presbytery from 1886 to 1900, having been ordained by it and installed pastor of Thompson Memorial Church. He was dismissed in 1900, and after an absence of nine years returned to become pastor of Leverington Church. Dr. W. B. Lower, ordained by Presbytery, has been pastor of three of Presbytery's churches, Bridgeport, Wyncote, and Holy Trinity of Logan. Rev. W. H. Wells, also ordained by Presbytery, has continued in the same pastorate, and his first, that of Olney, for twenty years.

The other three who became pastors in Presbytery's third decade were Rev. W. H. Waygood, first at Morrisville and later at Carmel, Edge Hill; Rev. J. R. Sanson at Roxborough; and Rev. R. M. Labaree, pastor at Doylestown from 1899 to 1904, then missionary to Persia for some years, and now professor in Lincoln University.

Others who joined the Presbytery during its third decade and are still laboring in other presbyteries are Dr. Wm. H. Roberts,* Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, who was in the Presbytery but one year, that of 1894; Dr. W. P. Merrill, the pastor of Brick Church, New York, who had as his first pastorate, Trinity Church, Chestnut Hill; Dr. Charles R. Erdman, Professor in Princeton Seminary, who was the first pastor of the Overbrook Church while it was connected with the Presbytery, and from 1897 to 1906 was pastor of the First Church of Germantown; Rev. Francis Palmer, now pastor of Prospect Street Church, Trenton, who was the pastor of the Summit Church of Germantown; Rev. T. McBride Nichols, now assistant pastor of a Collegiate Reformed Church of New York, who was pastor of Market Square Church of Germantown from 1893 to 1905; Dr. W. W. Hammond, now residing in New York, who was pastor of the Chestnut Hill Church from 1885 to 1892; Dr. W. Y. Chapman, now pastor of Roseville Church of Newark, N. J., who was the first pastor of Olivet Church of Reading; U. F. Smiley, pastor of the West

* Died June 26, 1920.

Church of Wilmington, Del., who was pastor of the Holmesburg Church from 1896 to 1902; Dr. W. H. Pumphrey, of Peoria, Ill., who was pastor of the Fox Chase Church from 1893 to 1903; Rev. W. E. Marden, of Troy, N. Y., who was pastor of the Morrisville Church; Dr. Alexander Alison, now of Cold Spring, N. Y., who was pastor of the Bristol Church; Dr. O. G. McDowell, late of the Richardson Memorial Church, Philadelphia, who was pastor of the Oak Lane Church; Rev. J. M. Rutherford, now of Waynesboro, Pa., who was pastor of the Wissinoming Church; Rev. W. H. Davis, of Humboldt, Kan., who was pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, Germantown, from 1895 to 1900; Rev. J. C. Levingood, now of Berwyn, who was pastor of the Lower Merion and Langhorne churches; Dr. L. S. Fulmer, of East Cleveland, Ohio, who was pastor of the Abington Church from 1892 to 1894; Daniel H. Martin, now of California, who was pastor of the Wissahickon Church and the Covenant Church at Cynwyd; Rev. L. M. Gibson, now of Drexel Hill, Pa., who was for twenty years pastor of the Roxborough Church; Rev. Samuel Polk, now of Lawrenceville, N. J., who was pastor of Eddington Church; Rev. J. Milton Thompson, of Far Rockaway, N. Y., who was pastor of Falls of Schuylkill; Rev. James Robinson, of Bethlehem, Pa., who was pastor of Olivet, Reading; Rev. C. T. Chester, again a member of the Presbytery, who was pastor of Calvary Church of Wyncote.

There were four who joined during the period and died while connected with the Presbytery. They were Rev. Thomas Guthrie F. Hill, pastor of Wakefield Church, Germantown, from April, 1893, until his death in 1899; Rev. T. Cornwell Jennings, who was ordained and installed at Morrisville in 1896, and in 1900 became pastor of the Wakefield Church, and continued as such until his death in 1907; and Dr. J. F. Dripps, who returned to the Presbytery in 1891, was pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, Germantown, from 1904 to 1909, and died in January, 1914; and Dr. R. P. D. Bennett, whose death the Presbytery has so lately been called to mourn, who joined the Presbytery in 1900 and was installed pastor of Summit Church.

Others who have died since being dismissed from the Presbytery were Dr. James Roberts, who was Stated Clerk of the Synod of Pennsylvania; Dr. Sherman H. Doyle, who was pastor of Falls of Schuylkill; Dr. W. Y. Brown, who supplied Lower Merion Church; Rev. J. C. Hunter, pastor of Central Church of Norristown; Rev. Albert R. Kelley, pastor of Ann Carmichael; Rev. W. R. Templeton, of Washington Street, Reading; and Rev. Wm. Allen, Jr., pastor of Ambler.

During the period of the third and fourth decades, the Presbytery had two additional Elder Moderators to the one heretofore mentioned, General Louis Wagner. They were Franklin L. Sheppard in 1894 and Wm. H. Scott in 1903. New elders were added to the churches and became active and useful in the Presbytery's proceedings. Of these we may mention the following as having been lost by death: S. G. Dennison and William Sidebottom, of the First Church of Germantown; Samuel Bradbury, A. H. Chase, and Henry L. Davis, of the Second Church; Josiah Linton, of the Falls of Schuylkill; John H. Tingley, of Mount Airy; Penrose R. Perkins, of Summit; W. W. Craig, of the First Church of Norristown; John H. Scribner, of Oak Lane; J. M. Colton, of Abington; M. D. Yonkers, of Frankford; and B. H. Mackie, of Hermon of Frankford.

To Mr. Colton the Presbytery was indebted for a liberal gift towards its Italian work in Germantown. Early in the twentieth century the Presbytery assumed mission work among the Italian population in Germantown. A school was established on Price Street by the Woman's Presbyterian Society. Later Rev. Joseph F. Panetta was engaged as a missionary pastor and under his labors and through the liberal support of the churches of Germantown and the liberal bequest of Mr. J. M. Colton a valuable property has come to be possessed. The work was later extended to Bristol, Ambler, Norristown, and Ardmore, and additional Italian missionaries employed. Upon the constitution of a church extension committee the work was placed under its supervision and it was authorized to engage the Rev. T. Clayton

Welles, pastor of the Macalester Memorial Church, to oversee the work.

Since 1900, during the fourth and fifth decades of the Presbytery's existence, 186 ministers have been received and enrolled as members, and 142 dismissed. Twenty-nine have died. The report to the last Assembly gave the number at present enrolled as 111, or 23 more than in 1900. Thirty-nine were ordained to the ministry and a large number of candidates for the same received from the churches. Those joining the Presbytery during the fourth decade, or from 1900 to 1910, and remaining with it to the present, or more than ten years, number 26. Of these 18 are pastors, all but 4 of the same church. Rev. R. M. Blackburn has been pastor of the First Church of Reading nearly 19 years; Rev. J. H. Lee, of the Second Church of Germantown, nearly 18 years; Rev. J. A. Crawford, of the Central Church of Norristown, 17 years; Rev. W. L. Moore, of Carmichael Memorial, 16 years; Rev. W. W. Harris, of Thompson Memorial, W. K. Foster, of Grace, Jenkintown, and Dr. W. B. Jennings, of First Church of Germantown, 14 years; Rev. R. H. Armstrong, of Faith Church, Germantown; Rev. H. W. Hathaway, of Covenant Church, Germantown, and Rev. B. F. Gemmill, of Ivyland, 13 years; Rev. E. G. Rawson, of Ardmore, 12 years; Rev. W. E. Steckel, of Doylestown; Rev. H. W. Bloch, of Fox Chase, and Rev. H. H. Crawford, of Hermon, for 11 years. The four who have been pastors of two different churches are Rev. John Van Ness, of Holmesburg and Narberth; Rev. H. B. McCrone, of Manayunk and Wakefield; Rev. T. C. Welles, of Eddington and Macalester Memorial; and Rev. A. E. Stuart, of Oak Lane and Neshaminy of Warwick. Others joining during the fourth decade still connected with Presbytery, but not pastors, are Drs. W. H. Waygood and L. W. Eckard, and Rev. Messrs. I. F. Wagner, J. F. Panetta, M. C. Gabrielian, and P. Rioseco.

Many of the large number of those uniting with the Presbytery during this decade remained with it but a short time and were mostly pastors of the smaller churches. Among those who withdrew and now occupy prominent positions in

other presbyteries may be mentioned Rev. Messrs. J. B. C. Mackie, B. F. Paist, R. H. Morris, E. J. Humeston, J. M. Waddell, Eliot Field, and B. B. Royer.

There have been a number of deaths during this period of members active in the pastorate. In addition to those heretofore alluded to we would mention those of Dr. John Peacock, Dr. Chas. E. Burns, Dr. J. P. W. Blattenberger, Rev. W. R. Templeton, Rev. H. C. McBride, Rev. W. M. Glasgow, and Rev. W. R. Murray, all of whom were sincerely mourned.

The churches that have made the fewest changes of pastorates during the fifty years of the life of the Presbytery have been mostly the larger churches. Frankford First stands at the head of the list, having only its second pastor. A few of the others have had less than four. These are Conshohocken, Manayunk, Newtown, and Norristown First. Germantown First and Second, and Chestnut Hill have each had five; Market Square, Doylestown, Norristown Central, Abington, and Falls of Schuylkill, six. Among the churches organized by the Presbytery there have been longer pastorates. Westside, Germantown, organized twenty-eight years ago, still retains its first pastor; Ashbourne and Leverington, organized forty-two years ago, and Trinity, Chestnut Hill, organized thirty-one years ago, have each but their second pastor. Mount Airy has had but three in the course of thirty-seven years. Lawndale, organized thirty-two years ago, has its second pastor. Olney, organized over twenty years, retains its one pastor. The other churches organized by the Presbytery have not so good a record, a number of them having changed pastors oftener and some of them quite a number of times.

The growth of the Presbytery from 4,541 to 26,260, during its fifty years of life, compares favorably with the other presbyteries of the Synod. Pittsburgh shows larger gains, but Allegheny Presbytery was later consolidated with it. Philadelphia North has two and one-half times as many ministers, more than twice as many churches, and more than six times the communicant membership of fifty years ago. This exceeds considerably the gains of presbyteries appropriate to be con-

sidered with it. These show a gain of less than four times in membership and report *less* than twice the number of churches.

With few exceptions *all* the churches of Philadelphia North have increased in numbers and resources. Germantown First has led considerably all the others. In the Minutes of 1870 its membership is given as 250. This year it reports 1,654, a sevenfold increase. Germantown Second reported in 1870 153. It has now 753, an increase of nearly fivefold. In 1870 Norristown First reported 190. It has now 758 and has thus quadrupled its membership. Doylestown, Conshohocken, and Bridesburg have trebled their membership. Norristown Central, Newtown, and Norriton and Providence have doubled. Frankford First, at the organization of Presbytery, had the largest membership of the body, 433. It now reports 821, or nearly double the number in 1870. Market Square, Germantown, reported at Presbytery's organization 369. It now reports 681, or nearly double the former number. The other and smaller churches have all increased with two exceptions. Bridgeport and Port Kennedy have quadrupled their membership. Pottstown, Thompson Memorial, Huntingdon Valley, Jeffersonville, Holmesburg, and Roxborough trebled theirs, some of them more than trebled. Springfield, Forestville, Bristol, and Lower Merion have doubled.

The greatest gains, however, have been in the churches organized by Presbytery. Westside has increased in 18 years from 166 to 1,036; Wakefield in 37 years from 49 to 800; Olney in 21 years from 51 to 764; Holy Trinity in 11 years from 35 to 783; Mount Airy in 40 years from 25 to 702; Summit in 15 years from 137 to 646; Carmel, Edge Hill, in 37 years from 30 to 669; Disston Memorial in 34 years from 12 to 608; Covenant, Germantown, in 10 years from 233 to 637; Leverington in 42 years from 109 to 540; Oak Lane in 28 years from 86 to 511; Hermon in 26 years from 42 to 542; Wissinoming in 30 years from 20 to 366.

The Presbytery has been fortunate in the organization of churches. With two or three exceptions all have justified the action. The existence upon the roll of at least two organizations hinders the Presbytery from reporting accessions each

year from all churches, and from reporting the benevolent columns of all the churches filled; and reduces the averages for benevolences of the Presbytery. As they are without elders and with little, if any, immediate prospect of growth, there would seem to be a strong call to reduce them to the condition of missions with attachment, as such, to neighboring churches.

The Presbytery has reason to be thankful for the blessing of God upon its labors during its fifty years of organized life, and its prayer should continually be for grace and power to continue steadfast in doctrine and exhibit, in abundant works, the evidence of faith in, and love for its Divine Head.