

THE LATE REV.

W. C. WHISNAND.

The committee on necrology of Fargo Presbytery made the following report.

For several years your committee has had no reports to make but we are sorry to have to make a report at this meeting of the Presbytery. It is on the departure of our brother Rev. William C. Whisnand, a member of our Presbytery. He died soon after the springmeeting of the Presbytery at Jamestown, but we were not informed of this until recently. His death occurred at his home in Monmouth, Ill., April 26, 1907, at the age of 73.

He was born near Bloomington, Monroe county, Ind., on May 13 1834. He was raised on a farm and had only a common school education. In his childhood days he united with the Methodist Episcopal church and from the first of his christian life he became an earnest, zealous worker for his Master and for others. God gave him a splendid voice for singing and he used his talent to the glory of His praise and to the edification of his fellow creatures. As a result of his first marriage there are two sons living, William E. Whisnand of Wenatchie, Wash., and Robert B. Whisnand of Hope, N. D. He moved to Piper City, Ill., in 1872 and was married to Miss Margaret R. Pope in 1874, who survives him. He was postmaster here for a number of years but his health failed him and hearing of the healthy climate of North Dakota, he with many friends formed a colony and settled in Cass county and carried on farming for a time. This was in 1882. Here he did not find the school, the church and the Sabbath school as he had found in his former places of residence, but he found Sabbath desecration and wickedness in many forms. He realized perhaps as he had never before, the need of religious services. His devotion to his Master and his great love and interest in the salvation of immortal souls, placed him in a condition to hear the call of God to do the work which was at his door.

Rev. J. H. Baldwin, that pioneer saint, who has since entered into his rest, came and preached in the neighborhood and urged Mr. Whisnand to go on with the work which he had been doing without being licensed. He felt called to the work and the Lord was with him. The people heard him gladly and many were led to accept Christ as their Saviour.

Rev. F. M. Wood, synodical missionary, after hearing him preach asked him, "Where did you get your authority to preach?" Mr. Whisnand replied, "From the Lord." Mr. Wood said, "Go on preaching. That is higher authority than man can give." He was licensed at Fargo in 1887 and was ordained at Buffalo in 1888. He served as stated supplying the following fields: Pickert and Ayr, N. D., 1887; Broadlawn and Colgate, 1888. He was pastor at Broadlawn and Galesburg from 1888 to 1897. His voice failed him in 1897 and he returned to Monmouth, Ill. But on account of his health he returned to North Dakota and settled at Page. He served the Baldwin church for two years, but was not strong enough to endure the long drives in winter; so he returned to Monmouth, but he longed to return to the work he loved so dearly. In January and February 1905 he was greatly interested in revival meetings conducted in the city and attended twice a day. He took a severe cold and suffered greatly from a cough which had troubled him for years. He gradually grew weaker until he fell asleep in Jesus, April 26, 1907.

Although his sufferings were intense, he sang, prayed and quoted the scripture a great part of the time. "I to the hills will lift mine eyes." "The Lord is my sheperd, I shall not want." and many others sweet passages. The funeral was held at his home by his pastor, the Rev. W. R. King who read the fourteenth chapter of John which he had requested. The text was from II Timothy 4.7, "I have fought a good fight: I have finished my course; I have kept the faith." He was laid to rest in Glendale cemetery on Saturday, April 28, 1907.

He was a kind, genial and sympathizing man who made friends wherever he went and though being dead yet he speaketh. His influence will live long and his memory will be cherished by those who knew him. It is fitting that we as a presbytery should pause for a time and that prayer should be offered for his wife who shared with him in the work he loved so well. Also that we express our sympathy to the bereaved wife and friends and that a copy of this paper be sent to the wife.

Respectfully submitted.

Signed: M. S. Riddle,

Chairman.