CHAPTER VI

CONFERENCE LEADERS OF YESTERYEAR

In this chapter we present the pictures and very brief biographies of a few of our ministers of by-gone days. Unfortunately, we cannot be comprehensive in listing all whose names should appear here. The factors entering into the selection of these sketches were: the availability of cuts without cost to us; the availability of the information we present; and the fact that those here listed made more than an average contribution to the cause. We are fully aware that scores of unnamed ministers have wrought as well as these mentioned but our lack of information and space prevents their appearance in this chapter.

In the next chapter will appear the pictures and sketches of bishops, general officers, editors, home and foreign missionaries who have gone out from the churches of our conference.

Some of these subjects of sketches were never identified with Pennsylvania Conference. Their affiliation was with Virginia or Maryland Conferences in the years when the Western Maryland churches were thus connected. For the convenience of our readers we again state that the churches in Washington and Frederick counties of Maryland were in the Virginia Conference from 1830 to 1887, and in Maryland Conference, 1887 to 1901. The Maryland Conference merged with Pennsylvania Conference in 1901.

ALBRIGHT. Rev. Isaiah H. Albright, A. M., Ph. D., was born April 9, 1853; entered East Pennsylvania Conference in 1876; was ordained in 1879; following the four years of joint sessions of East Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Conferences (1882-86) he remained with Pennsylvania Conference. His pastorates in this conference were Mt. Wolf, York First and Dallastown. From 1890 to 1895 he was one of the presiding elders. At the conference of 1899 he returned to East Pennsylvania Conference by transfer. Dr. Albright shared with Drs. Eberly and Brane in the writing of "Landmark History of the United Brethren Church." In 1900-01 he translated from German into English the old conference minutes of 1800-37. Dr. Albright died April 21, 1919, and is buried at Middle-town, Penna.

ALTMAN. One of the most successful and beloved ministers of Pennsylvania Conference's history was a Jew, the Rev. Nehemiah Altman. He was born of Jewish parents in 1813, in Germany, and came to America in the year 1838, settling in Ohio. He was converted under the influence of the beautiful life of the elder Bishop Kumler. After his conversion he became connected with the U. B. Publishing House, then at Circleville, Ohio. Later he became its agent. His mother and brother, the latter a rabbi, renounced him and considered him dead because of his conversion
to Christianity. Mr. Altman joined Pennsylvania Conference in 1845 and was ordained in 1846. He organized the Scott Street congregation in Baltimore and erected the church. Later he was pastor of Third Church, Fulton Avenue, Baltimore, and from 1863 to 1867 served as a presiding elder. On his deathbed he said: "Tell my people in the flesh (Jews) that I, Nehemiah Altman, after preaching Jesus Christ as the true Messiah for thirty-eight years, now find that I am not disappointed." He died in great peace February 21, 1878, and is buried in Loudon Park Cemetery, Baltimore.

ANTHONY. Rev. J. P. Anthony was born February 1, 1843; entered Conference in 1867; was ordained in 1870; died March 6, 1919; and is buried at Keedysville, Maryland. He served fourteen pastorates, the last one being at Keedysville where he remained fourteen years. He also served four years as presiding elder. Mr. Anthony stood high in the councils of the denomination. His special interests were Sunday School work and the Orphanage and Home.

AYRES. Rev. Alexander R. Ayres, D. D., was born at Winterstown, Pa., June 30, 1856. When he was quite young his parents moved to Dallastown where he grew to manhood. He entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1881 and was ordained in 1884. Dr. Ayres served a number of pastorates, always with abounding success. He was presiding elder 1899-1902, and following the election of Dr. A. B. Statton to the bishopric in 1925 Dr. Ayres again served as superintendent of the conference from July 1 to October, 1925. Since the above date he has sustained a retired relation to the conference, living at Carlisle, Pa. Mrs. Ayres was Miss Sarah Ellen Craumer, daughter of the late Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Craumer. She died September 24, 1933. Dr. Ayres has been very active in the work of the conference from the date of his entrance. He will be remembered by thousands for his leadership in music, principally as a member of the Conference Quartet.

BACHTEL. Rev. Jacob Bachtel was born in Washington County, Md., July 7, 1812. After serving many very successful pastorates in Maryland and Virginia, he became a presiding elder in Virginia Conference. He was one of the organizers and charter members of Parkersburg (now West Virginia) Conference in 1857. Among the other charter members were Rev. J. W. Miles, a native of Frederick County, Md., and Rev. J. W. Perry, of Chewsville, Md. Mr. Bachtel died October 23, 1866, and is buried at Otterbein Chapel cemetery, near Ripley, W. Va.

BALTZELL. Rev. Isaiah Baltzell was born at Thurmont, Frederick County, Maryland, November 26, 1832. He was licensed to preach in 1854 by Virginia Conference and received ordination in 1856. He transferred to Pennsylvania Conference in 1862, and to East Pennsylvania Conference in 1868. In the latter conference he was a presiding elder, 1875-1880, and 1883-1889. He was noted for his musical genius and was an editor of many musical publications, principally Sunday School song books. He wrote many of the songs he published. Perhaps his best known hymn is, 'I Want to be a Worker for the Lord.' Another familiar hymn of his
composition was "Take My Heart, Dear Jesus, Make It All Thine Own." He was appointed by the General Conference of 1873 on the committee that prepared for publication, "Hymns for the Sanctuary." He died in 1893.

BAULUS. Rev Jacob Baulus was born March 10, 1768, in Middle-town Valley, Frederick County, Md., and died in Ohio, April 20, 1851. He was converted at the age of eighteen and was licensed to preach by the "United Ministers" in 1795. He was very active in the early conference, serving a number of years as secretary. In 1822 he removed to "the deep, dark forest of the Black Swamp,"—now Fremont, Ohio. From 1822 to 1829, Mr. Baulus made many perilous missionary trips into the primitive wilds of the country west of Tuscarawas County. He established many preaching places which eventually developed into Sandusky Conference. He served as presiding elder and was noted for his organizing ability as well as his preaching power.

BEAMER. Rev. Walter J. Beamer was born July 23, 1842; entered Pennsylvania Conference 1869; ordained 1873; died January 25, 1927; buried in Salem cemetery, near Gettysburg. He served as a soldier in the Civil War for two years, and figured in some major battles. After eleven years in the pastorate he was elected presiding elder and served in that office twice, a total of ten years. He married Miss Sarepta Miller in 1870.

BURKHOLDER. Rev. D. R. Burkholder was born May 5, 1837; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1872; ordained in 1879; died March 5, 1900; buried at Annant Church (Hays Grove) Cumberland County, Pa. He married Susan Diller in 1858. He was a noble pastor and abundant in labors.

BURTNER. Rev. C. A. Burtner was born June 2, 1852; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1876; ordained in 1879; died March 5, 1900; buried at Annville, Penna. In addition to assignment to leading pastorate of the conference he was elected presiding elder in 1894, serving three years.

BYRD. Rev. Rudolph Byrd was born September 15, 1869; entered Virginia Conference in 1884; ordained 1887; transferred to Maryland Conference in 1895; came into Pennsylvania Conference by the merger in 1901; died October 2, 1928; buried at Spry, Pa. He married Miss Cornelia Ann Weaver in 1887. He was a good sermonizer, a faithful pastor, and lived the gospel he preached. In his earlier ministry he rode his circuits on horse-back in typical pioneer fashion. His saddle-bags, and other valuable historical materials and data he had collated, are being cared for by the conference historical committee. Mr. Byrd took a keen interest in United Brethren Church history and from 1912 to 1925 was secretary of the conference historical society.
CLIPPINGER. Rev. J. O. Clippinger was born December 23, 1848; entered Pennsylvania Conference 1879; was ordained in 1882; died July 9, 1918; interment at Chambersburg. He married Miss Emma Cormany, who survives. Mr. Clippinger was "an earnest and fearless gospel preacher, a successful revivalist and a joyous soul-winner." His distinguished physique and courtly manners greatly aided him in his ministerial labors. His first pastorate was at Boiling Springs where a revival held the first year witnessed over 200 conversions.

COLE. John H. Cole was born October 26, 1828 and died January 16, 1908. He was a native of Baltimore County, Md. In early life Mr. Cole became a leading business man of Baltimore City and amassed a fortune, which he lost suddenly by the collapse of his firm. While on a business trip into the vicinity of Rayville, Mr. Cole came under the influence of the United Brethren and was soundly converted. He became a lay-evangelist in Pennsylvania Conference, a relationship he sustained for twenty-nine years, until his death. He supplied a number of charges in the conference as pastor, although he did not care for that phase of the work. He loved the work of evangelism and no call was ever refused by him. He labored in every section of the conference and thousands were converted or brought back to Christ through his labors.

COLESTOCK. Rev. Zephaniah A. Colestock, D. D., lived to be nearly 100 years old, and he lived well. He was born at Littlestown, Pa., March 25, 1824, and died at the Old Folks' Home at Quincy, January 19, 1924. He was the founder and first superintendent of the Old Folks' Home at Mechanicsburg, which was later relocated at Quincy on the premises of the Orphanage. See the history of the home in Chapter IX. He was converted at the age of six years and began his long ministerial career in Muskingum Conference in 1844. In 1846 he returned to Pennsylvania Conference where he remained until death. For a number of years he served as presiding elder. He was married in 1849 to Miss Priscilla Cormany. Though blind for a number of years preceding his death his mind was keen and he kept abreast of the affairs of the Conference until the end.

CRUM. Christian and Henry Crum were twins. They were born in Frederick County, Md., in 1763. Christian joined the conference in 1791 and Henry was recognized as a member in 1800. They became itinerants and settled in Virginia. Christian seemed to be the more abundant in ministerial labors and was much beloved by Bishop Otterbein, who, toward the close of his life, made him a present of his Bible and hymn-book. Christian died in 1823.
EBERLY. Rev. Daniel Eberly, D. D., was born April 22, 1834; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1859; was ordained in 1861; died July 9, 1910; buried at Abbottstown, Penna. Doctor Eberly's educational preparation for the ministry was extensive and thorough. He was a strong, intellectual preacher. He became president of Cottage Hill College, York, Pa., in 1866, serving until 1872. He was a professor in Lebanon Valley College from 1872 until 1884. During the Civil War he was a soldier and after the war he became a chaplain of the Penna. National Guard. Doctor Eberly took great interest in United Brethren Church history and was co-author with Drs. Brane and Albright of "Landmark History of the United Brethren Church." Doctor Eberly married Miss Josephine Bittinger, of Abbottstown, Penna., who shared fully his interest in Christian education. The Bittinger family and the Eberlys made bequests to Lebanon Valley College with an estimated value totaling more than $40,000. Doctor Eberly's likeness may be found on the group picture of the Penna. Conf. of 1888, in this chapter.

ENTERLINE. No name meant more to Pennsylvania Conference during the middle of the past century than the name of Rev. Samuel Enterline. He was born September 4, 1810; entered Pennsylvania Conference 1839; ordained 1842; died May 24, 1884; buried at Hampton, Adams County, Pa. In 1831 he married Miss Elizabeth Stump. Mr. Enterline served a number of charges in their missionhood and sowed seeds that are still bearing fruitage. He was pastor, too, of some of the larger churches and always gave full proof of his ministry. In his later life he practiced medicine and as a doctor was held in highest esteem.

EVERHART. Rev. Lorenz Everhart was born May 6, 1755 and died August 6, 1840. His home was in Middletown, Md., where he was born. He was a Revolutionary War hero and is credited with having saved the life of Colonel Washington at the battle of Cowpens, and numerous extraordinary feats of bravery. He affiliated with the United Brethren and was licensed to preach in 1805. Conference met in his home in 1806. In the early days it was deemed in order for a minister to hold relations with several denominations at the same time, just as today a man may belong to several lodges at the same time. Everhart was affiliated also with the Methodists and accepted ordination from Bishop Asbury in 1808. In 1812 he was present at the U. B. conference and accepted an appointment.
A son, John Everhart, became a minister in the United Brethren Church, serving in Iowa.

EVERS. Rev. A. M. Evers was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, October 2, 1837; joined Virginia Conference in 1862; was ordained in 1863. He died September 18, 1918, in Hagerstown, Md., where he resided after retiring from active service. His body was laid to rest in Rose Hill Cemetery, Hagerstown. Mrs. Evers was Miss Jennie Rhinehart. She died Jan. 3, 1935 at the advanced age of ninety. Rev. Samuel J. Evers, a son, has been pastor of a Congregational Church in Connecticut since 1896. A daughter, Alice M., became the wife of Rev. D. E. Burtner. It is doubtful if any minister of our denomination ever enjoyed as large a circle of friends, both ministerial and lay, as did Father Evers. In addition to numerous successful pastorates, mostly in Western Maryland, he served a number of years as presiding elder in both Virginia and Maryland Conferences. He was the builder of many churches, including the first building of Grace Church, Hagerstown. Mr. Evers was one of the group that formed the Maryland Conference in 1887, and came with it into Pennsylvania Conference in 1901.

FULKERSON. Rev. John W. Fulkerson was born in Frederick County, Va., in 1822 and died in Minnesota January 20, 1910. He joined Virginia Conference in 1843 and was ordained in 1846. He served a number of pastorates in the Maryland district and in 1856 was sent as a missionary to Minnesota. He, with Rev. John Haney, formerly of Pennsylvania and Virginia Conferences, Bishop Davis, and a Rev. E. Clow were the four charter members of Minnesota Conference in 1857.

FUNKHOUSER. Rev. Daniel Funkhouser was born February 18, 1809; entered the conference in 1834; ordained in 1837; died August 31, 1869; buried at Salem Church, Franklin County, Pa. He was abundant in labors and a man of great faith and piety. Few did more to advance the church and kingdom during the middle of the past century. Mr. Funkhouser's son Benjamin was the father of Mrs. Wm. H. Washinger, whose husband was a pastor and superintendent in Penna. Conference for many years and later a bishop.
FULTZ. Rev. Charles E. Fultz, D. D., was born January 20, 1861; married Miss Lydia Franklin Cooper in 1883; joined Pennsylvania Conference, 1897; ordained, 1898; died October 24, 1931; buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Rayville, Md. He served but three pastorates in his ministerial career: Green-castle, 1897-99; Otterbein Memorial, Baltimore, 1899-08; Washington, 1908-25. During these years he witnessed 1,984 conversions and received 1,780 persons into the church. He baptized 1,547 persons and was a specialist in pastoral visitation. The conference of 1925 called him to the superintendency, following the election of the former superintendent, Dr. A. B. Statton, to the bishopric. Despite advancing years he gave the conference an aggressive leadership. During his Washington pastorate he was adjudged the most popular pastor in the city and was awarded a trip to the Holy Land.

GRIMM. The name Grimm represents a line of ministers in the United Brethren Church that spans much of its history. Joseph S. Grimm was born in 1812 at the paternal home in Rohrersville, Md. He entered Virginia Conference in 1841 and was ordained in 1847. His name stood high in the councils of the conference and he was always present. He was an earnest, evangelical preacher, noted for his zeal and power. He preached one Sunday in a union church at Sample's Manor, near Harper's Ferry, on the Maryland side. His text was: "I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work." John 9: 4. An old man with a long beard was in the audience and listened very attentively. The next day this old man, who proved to be John Brown, the Abolitionist, started the insurrection that precipitated the Civil War. Rev. J. S. Grimm's name was transferred to Maryland Conference when it was organized in 1887. He died March 10, 1892. He was the father of Revs. Wm. O. Grimm, John Wesley Grimm and Jacob Luther Grimm. Rev. J. Lower Grimm was a grandson.
Jacob Luther Grimm was born November 27, 1842. He joined Virginia Conference in 1867, was ordained in 1869, and transferred to Pennsylvania Conference in 1883. He served throughout the Civil War as a soldier and subsequently became Chaplain-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. He served a number of our most important pastorates and was the builder of Otterbein Memorial Church, Baltimore. He served Pennsylvania Conference as a presiding elder from 1897 to 1901. His death occurred August 22, 1905. His wife was the former Miss Mary Ellen Harp, of Chewsville, Md.

William Otterbein Grimm was born July 14, 1837. He entered Virginia Conference in 1865, was ordained two years later, and transferred to Pennsylvania Conference in 1883. He was a school-teacher in early life and was considered a most excellent scholar. Before coming to Pennsylvania Conference he served as presiding elder in Virginia Conference. He was married to Miss Martha A. Mullendore, of Rohrersville, Md. His death occurred August 24, 1896.

John Wesley Grimm was born June 24, 1839, and died February 15, 1921. He began his ministry in Virginia Conference in 1863, was ordained in 1864, and transferred to Pennsylvania Conference in 1876. John Wesley Grimm served most acceptably many pastorates within the bounds of Pennsylvania Conference. In the wide range of the ministry and membership of our denomination it may be questioned whether any name found therein calls forth more of love, reverence, and sincere appreciation than that of this noble saint. His wife was Miss Elizabeth Huffman, of Augusta County, Va.

J. Lower Grimm was the son of John Wesley Grimm. He was born April 12, 1869; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1888; was ordained in 1891; and died July 25, 1933. He was one of our honored and successful pastors, always giving a good account of his stewardship. He was married to Miss Lillie May Appenzellar, who shared his entire ministry of forty-five years. York Fourth Church (not the S. S. building), Waynesboro Church and the Mount Wolf Church were built during the pastorates of Rev. J. Lower Grimm.

HANBY. Rev. Benjamin R. Hanby, son of Bishop Wm. Hanby, joined Pennsylvania Conference in 1859 and transferred to Miami Conference in 1860. He was ordained in 1861 and served a short pastorate before his death which occurred March 16, 1867, at the age of thirty-three. He graduated in the second class to graduate from Otterbein College,
1858, and married Kate Winter, a member of the first class to graduate in 1857. Young Hanby will always be remembered as the author of the immortal melody of slave days, "Darling Nellie Gray." A fugitive slave from Kentucky was given refuge in the Hanby home at Westerville, Ohio, where he died of pneumonia. Before he died he told young Benjamin, then a sophomore in Otterbein, of his darling sweetheart, Nellie Gray, from whom he had been separated because she had been sold to a man in Georgia. Hanby entered so sympathetically into the sorrows of the negro youth that it inspired him to write the world famous melody. It is classed with Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in the influence it exerted to abolish slavery. The Hanby home at Westerville has been restored and is now a national shrine. Hanby is buried in the cemetery near the college.

HANEY. Rev. John Haney was born April 10, 1807; was converted at a camp meeting in Hartman's Grove, near Dallastown, in 1827; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1830; ordained 1832; served in both Pennsylvania and Virginia Conferences and transferred to Virginia Conference in 1840; in 1857 he was sent as a missionary to Minnesota and was one of the four charter members of Minnesota Conference (see sketch of Rev. J. W. Fulkerson). Mr. Haney died November 8, 1904.

HARP. Rev. Joshua Harp was born August 29, 1826; entered Virginia Conference 1861; ordained 1864; he was a charter member Maryland Conference 1887; came into Pennsylvania Conference by the merger of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Conferences 1901; died February 19, 1905; buried at Benevola, Washington County, Md. He gave the leadership that resulted in the organization of Benevola and Mt. Lena Churches on Boonsboro Charge. One son, Cyrus D. Harp, became a minister, and two daughters married ministers, Revs. C. I. B. Brane and Z. A. Weidler. A grandson is Rev. V. O. Weidler, D. D., bishop of the Southwest District; another is Prof. Deleth Weidler, who has served as a missionary in Africa; and another is Mr. Harry Newcomer, treasurer of Quincy U. B. Orphanage and Home.
HEBERLY. Rev. M. J. Heberly was born July 4, 1852 and died December 3, 1911. He entered East German Conference in 1879 and was ordained in 1881. He transferred to Pennsylvania Conference in 1893 and served a number of charges with great acceptability. He was the father of Rev. H. H. Heberly, United Brethren minister in Los Angeles, California, Mrs. J. C. Myers, a contributor to the columns of our Sunday School literature, and other children who are giving a good account of themselves in Christian work.

HERSHEY. Rev. John Hershey's home was within a mile of Christian Newcomer's home in Washington Co., Md. He was a member of the conference in 1800, but had been closely associated with the church founders for a number of years prior to that time. His son, John Hershey, Jr., became prominent in the city life of Hagerstown and served as mayor. He was a leader in the development of St. Paul's church and was an organizer and first treasurer of the "Benevolent Fund Society of the U. B. Church," which was the denomination's first attempt at aged preachers' pensions. The elder John Hershey had been a slave-owner, but voluntarily set them free. Rev. John Hershey died April 4, 1811, and is buried beside his wife in the Fahrney's cemetery, near Boonsboro, Md.

HOKE. Jacob Hoke was given the title of lay-evangelist by Pennsylvania Conference, and was constantly in demand to assist pastors with revivals, dedications, and as a pulpit supply. He was born March 17, 1825, and died Dec. 26, 1893. He held many offices of great responsibility on the general boards of the denomination and was always outstanding in the work of Pennsylvania Conference. He was noted as an author of religious and historical works. His book of 600 pages, "The Great Invasion of 1863; or, General Lee in Pennsylvania," is acknowledged to be one of the most complete and trustworthy records of the battle of Gettysburg and the burning of Chambersburg. Mr. Hoke was a successful merchant of Chambersburg and a United Brethren for over fifty years.

HOUCK. Rev. W. J. Houck was born April 20, 1855; entered Conference in 1890; ordained in 1893; died May 30, 1917; interment at York. He was brought up a Catholic but was converted under the influence of his wife, who was a Miss Mary A. Cramer, and Rev. J. H. Young who was pastor at York Second Church. His pastorates were: Newburg, Carlisle, Baltimore, Franklin Street, Washington, York Third, and Greencastle. For a number of years he was field secretary for the Quincy Orphanage and Home, a cause that was near to his heart.
These names are placed together for reasons that will be apparent to the reader. They represent ministerial families of importance in the United Brethren Church and Pennsylvania Conference.

HUBER. Rev. Samuel Huber was born January 31, 1782, in Franklin County, Pa., and died July 12, 1868. His remains rest in the Salem church cemetery, near Rocky Springs, Penna. Mr. Huber's parents were Mennonites, but opened their hospitable home at Rocky Springs to the pioneer United Brethren preachers, including Otterbein, Boehm, Geeting, Newcomer and Hoffman. At first it was the only preaching place of the United Brethren between Hagerstown and Harrisburg. Samuel Huber married Nancy Weaver June 10, 1806. Both were converted after marriage. In 1816 Mr. Huber became a member of the conference, was ordained in 1819, and became one of the truly outstanding ministers of the conference for a half century. He was elected presiding elder the year he was ordained and served a total of twelve years in that office. Samuel Huber was a great promoter of camp meetings in which thousands of souls were brought to Christ. He was the first U. B. preacher from Franklin County and established the preaching appointment in Chambersburg in 1818 which developed into the formal organization of First Church in 1823. See the history of Chambersburg First Church.

HUBER. Rev. Abraham Huber was born April 16, 1786, at Rocky Springs. He was a brother of Samuel and was a valuable member of the conference, being received in 1823. He died February 26, 1879 and is buried in the Salem Church cemetery. It is claimed that Samuel and Abraham Huber were the first United Brethren to contribute to foreign missions.

STOUFFER. Rev. Henry Stouffer was born September 16, 1795; entered conference in 1837; died April 30, 1884; interment in Salem Church cemetery, Franklin County, Pa. He married Miss Mary Flickinger of Path Valley, who was a cousin of Bishop D. K. Flickinger and Rev. D. C. Kumler, first U. B. missionaries to Africa. Revs. Samuel and Abraham Huber were great-uncles, and Rev. Henry Stouffer was the grandfather of Mrs. E. H. Hummelbaugh, whose husband was for many years an honored member of Pennsylvania Conference. (See sketch of Rev. E. H. Hummelbaugh). Rev. Henry Stouffer preached all his life without pay, supporting his large family by farming.

HOFFMAN. Rev. Joseph Hoffman, who became a bishop in the United Brethren Church, was born March 19, 1780, in Cumberland County, Pa. He entered the conference in 1806, was ordained in 1813, and trans-
ferred to Miami conference in 1818. He became the pioneer preacher and forerunner of United Brethrenism in the Scioto and Miami valleys. Prior to removing to the “West” he served a three-year pastorate at the Old Otterbein Church in Baltimore. It is said that his voice could be heard distinctly for a mile. Mr. Hoffman was elected bishop in 1821 and served one term. He died Nov. 8, 1856 and is buried at Lewisburg, Ohio.

HOFFMAN. Rev. Enoch Hoffman entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1836 and was ordained in 1838. He served as a pastor in the conference until 1847, his last pastorate being York First Church. His wife was a Miss Catherine Keller of Big Spring, a grand-daughter of Joseph Knegi. Rev. Enoch Hoffman and family moved to Ohio in 1847. Mrs. Hoffman died a few days after arrival at Germantown, Ohio, leaving her husband and two small children, Eurilla and Frances. The grandfather, Jacob Keller, of Big Spring, drove a carriage to Ohio and brought his grand-daughters back to Big Spring, educated them. Frances became the wife of Rev. H. Y. Hummelbaugh, the mother of Rev. E. H. Hummelbaugh, and grandmother of Rev. Grace Sponseller. Rev. Enoch Hoffman moved westward with the frontiersmen and died in Iowa.

HUMMELBAUGH. Rev. H. Y. Hummelbaugh was born July 10, 1835; entered conference in 1859; ordained in 1861; died October 13, 1868; burial at Chambersburg. He married Frances Hoffman in 1861. Although his ministerial career was cut short by death, Hiram Y. Hummelbaugh had made his mark in the conference in a very definite way.

HUMMELBAUGH. Rev. Edwin Hoffman Hummelbaugh was born December 13, 1864; entered conference in 1895; ordained in 1895; married Miss Mary Huber; died December 7, 1924; burial in Norland Cemetery, Chambersburg. He served acceptably some of our leading pulpits and was beloved by all his brethren in the ministry and parishioners. His last pastorate was at Mont Alto, where Rev. Grace Sponseller, his daughter, continued his pastorate for several years.

HUTCHISON. Rev. Joseph R. Hutchison was born January 29, 1841; entered conference 1866; ordained 1870; died July 12, 1922; burial at New Cumberland, Pa. He married Miss Mary E. Sellers in 1863, who served as president of Penna. Conference Branch of the W. M. A., 1883-1903. Rev. Mr. Hutchison was a soldier in the Civil War,
receiving a serious wound in the battle of Petersburg, Va. During his long ministry he built eight churches of the conference, and five parsonages. He was known as a “Church Builder.” He received 2,150 persons into the church. As secretary of Pennsylvania Conference he served from 1877 to 1903. Mr. Hutchison was of a jovial disposition and always remained young in spirit.

KEMP. Rev. Peter Kemp was born June 28, 1749, died February 26, 1811, and is buried in Doub’s cemetery, Rocky Springs, Frederick County, Md. His father was Frederick Kemp and owned the home in which the conference of 1800 was held, although the place is usually referred to as the Peter Kemp home. Otterbein, Boehm, Geeting and Newcomer loved to visit here. Newcomer was with Rev. Peter Kemp when he died and, with Geeting, conducted the funeral services. Peter Kemp was licensed to preach in 1801. The conferences of 1800, 1801 and 1819 were held in the Kemp home. In the latter year Valentine Doub, a son-in-law of Peter Kemp, with his family occupied the homestead. Peter Kemp, Jr., was a school teacher and figured prominently in the beginnings of the Walkersville and Frederick churches. See the histories of those churches elsewhere in this volume.

KEPHART. Rev. Henry Kephart, Jr. joined Pennsylvania Conference in 1834 and was ordained in 1837. His birthdate was January 5, 1802. He married Sarah Goss in 1826. They were the parents of Bishop E. B. Kephart, Bishop C. J. Kephart, and Dr. I. L. Kephart. The latter was editor of the Telescope for nineteen years. Rev. Henry Kephart became a charter member of Allegheny Conference which was formed in 1839, his home being in Clearfield County, western Pennsylvania.

KLEFFMAN. Rev. J. E. Kleffman, D. D., was born April 11, 1866; entered Pennsylvania Conference, 1889; ordained, 1892; married Miss Ella Lucking, 1893; honorary degree of doctor of divinity from L. V. C., 1910; pastor, 1891-1921; field secretary of Quincy Orphanage and Home, 1921-1926; died March 17, 1926. Dr. Kleffman stood high in the councils of the conference and the denomination and for twenty-four years served the conference as treasurer. His son, Rev. A. H. Kleffman, D. D., is pastor of West Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, Del.

KIRACOFFE. Rev. John Wesley Kiracofe was born August 25, 1841; entered Virginia Conference in 1863 and was ordained the following
year; transferred to Pennsylvania Conference in 1887; died September 29, 1914; buried at Hagerstown. Fifty-one ministers attended the funeral. He was one of eleven children, six of whom became ministers of the gospel. Three entered the United Brethren ministry: Rev. George W. Kiracofe was a member of Penna. Conference from 1878 to 1890, then became a Baptist minister; Rev. Nimrod A. Kiracofe was a member of Pennsylvania Conference from 1904 until his death in 1936, having previously served in Virginia Conference; Rev. John Wesley Kiracofe was always an outstanding minister and pulpiteer from the time he received his first license in 1863. A brother, James H. Kiracofe, a layman, also stood high in the councils of the denomination. (See the history of Grace U. B. Church Hagerstown.) Rev. J. W. Kiracofe was known for his ability as a pulpit orator and served most acceptably many of our leading pulpits over a period of half a century. His first wife, who was Miss Catherine V. Snyder, died in 1870. There were three children by this union. A grand-daughter by this union is Mrs. Edna Bell, president of Pennsylvania Conference Branch of the W. M. A. Mr. Kiracofe's second wife was Miss Susan P. Buxton, of Keedysville. Seven children were born of this union.

KOONTZ. Rev. Josiah P. Koontz was born at Silver Run, Carroll County, Md., April 23, 1861; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1888; ordained in 1891; died December 8, 1923; buried at Yoe, Penna. Mr. Koontz served many of the leading pastorates of Pennsylvania Conference and was noted for his ability as a soul-winner. He received 1,260 members into the church during his thirty-five years as a pastor and hundreds who were converted during his ministry united with other churches. A son, Rev. Paul R. Koontz, D. D., continues the work of his father in Pennsylvania Conference.

LIGHT. Prior to 1846 the territory now occupied by East Pennsylvania Conference was a part of Pennsylvania Conference. Felix Light was
probably the most outstanding of the early leaders of United Brethrenism
in the vicinity of Lebanon, Penna. He was born in 1767, and was married
to Barbara Sherk. His conversion occurred after his marriage and he be­
came a preacher, probably without the formality of a license. He served
many appointments over a long period of years and built, largely at his
own expense, Light’s Meeting House in Lebanon, at about 1818. “As
a pastor he was faithful and efficient, wonderfully gifted and enterprising,
and went from house to house conversing with the people concerning
their spiritual welfare, relieving the wants of the poor, sympathizing with
the afflicted, and thus gave counsel and comfort to all.” He gave three
sons to the United Brethren ministry, John, Casper and Joseph. The
Light’s Meeting House developed into what is now the Salem United Breth­
ren Church, Lebanon, Penna.

LOHR. Rev. Martin Lohr was born September 28, 1803 and died
May 17, 1868. He was buried at Hanover, Pa., where he had resided since
1829. Although a licensed minister he did not accept appointment to
churches as pastor, preferring to preach as opportunity afforded. He
opened his home in Hanover to United Brethren preachers where an ap­
pointment was regularly filled after 1832. This preaching place developed
into the present U. B. Church in Hanover. (See the history of Lohr’s
Memorial Church of Hanover.) Mr. Lohr entered the conference in 1834
and was ordained the following year. He was an outstanding citizen of
Hanover and was in great demand for supply preaching in churches of all
denominations.

MARTIN. Rev. William Landers Martin was born January 24, 1845,
in Frederick County, Md., and died January 27, 1917. His remains rest
in the Thurmont Cemetery, near the church he served as pastor three different times, and which he
loved so well. Mr. Martin joined Virginia Con­ference in 1881 and was ordained in 1884. He was
a charter member of the Maryland Conference when
it was organized in 1887 and stayed with it until
it merged with Pennsylvania Conference in 1901.
He was the very efficient secretary of the Maryland
Conference during most of its existence. Mr.
Martin was married to Miss Emma A. Sigmund in
1878 and she, with their two daughters and two
sons survive. Mr. Martin served a number of pas­
torates in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania with
great acceptability.

NEIDIG. Rev. John Neidig was born in Berks County, Pa., April
1, 1765, and died January 11, 1844, at Oberlin, Pa. He became associated
with the Church fathers and was licensed by the conference of 1791. He
was known as the Nathaniel of the early church, possessing a meek and
gentle spirit. He was faithful in attendance at the conferences and was
abundant in ministerial labors. In 1793, or shortly thereafter, he led in
the erection of a stone church building in what is now known as Oberlin,
Pa. This was the second building erected by the United Brethren, the
first being at Antietam, in Maryland.
THE OWEN BROTHERS

OWEN. There were five of the Owen brothers, sons of John W. and Elizabeth Keefer Owen, and they were all preachers. Two of them were ministers in other communions, but three were members and ministers of Pennsylvania Conference.

Abram K. Owen was a minister and presiding elder in North Ohio Conference of the M. E. Church. Stephen W. Owen was a Lutheran minister and for forty-seven years was pastor of St. John’s Lutheran Church, Hagerstown, Md. He was honored with the presidency of the General Synod of that denomination.

Alexander Owen was born October 22, 1820; joined Pennsylvania Conference in 1842; served Carlisle Circuit, Littlestown Circuit, Chambersburg Station, and Shopp’s Station. He was elected Presiding Elder in 1852, which office he held until he was elected President of Mount Pleasant College in 1856. He became the second editor of the "Unity Magazine" and of our denominational Sunday School Literature in 1857, but resigned a year later in order to accept the presidency of Otterbein College. He died December 3, 1864, and is buried at Oakville, Penna. He was noted as an educator and orator. His death in the prime of life was an inestimable loss to the church.

Wilson Owen, born May 25, 1827, joined Penna. Conference in 1867 and was ordained in 1870 by Bishop Jonathan Weaver. He served as pastor of Bendersville Circuit, Shopp’s Station (circuit), Littlestown Circuit, Greencastle Circuit, and died on Orrstown Circuit, April 2, 1876. He is buried at Chambersburg.*

William O. Owen, born May 26, 1830, joined Pennsylvania Conference in 1857. He served as pastor of Mt. Alto Circuit, Greencastle Circuit, Path Valley Circuit, Orrstown Circuit and Big Spring Circuit. In 1862 he united with the Church of God and spent about ten years in its ministry. The last forty years of his life were spent in the ministry of the Baptist Church. He died April 21, 1911.

*John Wilson Owen, present editor of our S. S. literature, whose picture and sketch appear in Chapter VII, is a son of Rev. Wilson Owen.
OYER. Rev. David M. Oyer was born September 27, 1868; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1901; was ordained in 1905; died February 22, 1917; buried at Shippensburg. He married Miss Irene Hoover in 1901. Miss Sarah Oyer and Rev. Russell C. Oyer were born of this union and, with Mrs. Oyer, survive. He had a beautiful tenor voice and was a member of the Conference Quartet, composed of Revs. Beattie, Oyer, Rodes and Ayres. He also served as statistical and recording secretary over a period of six years. He was much beloved as a pastor, having served the following charges: Mechanicsburg Circuit, Newburg, Duncannon, Boiling Springs, Enola and York Fourth.

PFRIMMER. Rev. John George Pfrrimmer was a native of Alsace on the Rhine, and was born July 24, 1762. He was well educated and served as a surgeon in the French navy during the French-English war in 1782, receiving a saber cut in the face during the conflict, which mark he carried to his grave. In 1788 he immigrated to the United States and settled in Eastern Pennsylvania. He was converted in 1790 and secured license to preach the same year. Beginning in 1800 he began to work his way westward, doing so by easy stages, establishing preaching appointments as he went. He finally settled in Harrison County, Indiana, in 1808. He was appointed a judge and became a leader in the development of the religious, social, and political life of the community. He joined the Miami Conference in 1814 and became one of its first presiding elders having charge of the "Kentucky and Indiana District." He is credited with being the founder of Sunday School work in the United Brethren Church, in 1800 at his home in Pennsylvania, and in 1820 in Indiana. President William Henry Harrison was his personal friend and remarked that if he had turned his attention to military affairs, he might have been one of the greatest generals of his day. He died September 5, 1825. Dr. Pfrrimmer was a musician of note and took with him into Indiana what was probably the first piano brought within its bounds.

RABER. Rev. Wm. B. Raber was born February 22, 1825; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1848; was ordained in 1850; and died February 11, 1875. His burial took place at York, Pa. He served in the pastorate of many charges and ten years in the presiding eldership. Four times he was sent to General Conference. He was a man of letters, having had considerable educational advantages, and was a quick thinker. He was at home in the pulpit, where he had few equals. He had unusual ability to lead young men into the Christian ministry, though insisting that they must be divinely called.
RICE. Rev. Amos H. Rice was born near Chambersburg July 11, 1849, and died at Dayton, Ohio, December 13, 1904. He became a member of Pennsylvania Conference in 1871, and received ordination in 1873. His wife was Miss Jennie E. Miller of near Newburg. He served a number of charges, always with abounding success. As pastor of Scott Street Church, Baltimore 1891-1902, he brought the church to a place of leadership in the conference. He was one of the presiding elders of the conference, serving from 1886 to 1890. The conference gave Mr. Rice many important offices which he always filled with great acceptability.

RUDISILL. Rev. Abraham Rudisill was born April 14, 1811; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1871 at the age of sixty; he was ordained in 1874; died January 20, 1899; buried in York, Penna. He was a soldier throughout the Civil War and traveled extensively. He was a scientist and contributed many articles to scientific journals. Mr. Rudisill was as much at home with Greek and Hebrew as with the English language. For a while he published a paper called "The Monthly Friend." It was through his benefactions that Harmony Grove Church on Dover charge was erected.

THE CONFERENCE OF 1888
(See picture on next page)

The Pennsylvania Annual Conference of 1888 was held in New Cumberland, Penna. On the following pages we present a group picture of the ministers identified with the conference at that time. The picture was loaned for the purpose by Mr. John W. Kiracofe, Boiling Springs, Penna., a son of the late Rev. J. W. Kiracofe.

Those on the picture, reading across both pages, are as follows:


Pennsylvania Conference of 1888. Plate No. 1
Names on Page 305
Pennsylvania Conference of 1888. Plate No. 2
Names on Page 305
RITTER. Rev. Jacob Ritter, M. D., was born in a humble home near Chambersburg, Pa., March 28, 1815. Licensed by Pennsylvania Conference, 1833; ordained, 1835; became junior pastor of Huntington Circuit in Western Penna. 1833 at the age of eighteen; one of the organizers of Allegheny Conference in 1839; studied medicine and in 1850 located at Liverpool, Pa., where he practiced medicine and preached as opportunity afforded. Doctor Ritter served as an active itinerant twenty-four years in the mountains of western Pennsylvania. One of his circuits embraced six counties, three hundred square miles, and he traveled on foot and horseback. He founded several of the largest and most influential churches in Allegheny Conference, one of which is First Church, Johnstown. As a doctor of medicine he ministered to the bodies as well as souls of his flock. He often forded swollen rivers on horseback, putting his saddlebags about his neck to keep them dry. In his autobiography he says: "I frequently slept in garrets covered with clap-boards, through which the snow sifted, while the winds blew, and in the morning my bed would be covered with snow and sleet." Doctor Ritter was greatly interested in education and took the initiative in the erection of Mount Pleasant College.

SAND. Rev. John Adam Sand was born in Alsace, France, July 1, 1812, and came to America in May of 1833. He was converted in the parsonage of Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, under the pastorate of Rev. John Krock. He received license to preach in 1841 and was ordained in 1844. He served acceptably some of the larger churches in the Pennsylvania and East Pennsylvania Conferences, including Old Otterbein, Fulton Avenue and George Street Churches in Baltimore. He built four churches, one of which was the Fulton Avenue Church. He served as presiding elder in East Penna. Conference and was a member of three general conferences. He was a great revivalist. His death occurred September 15, 1880, with interment in Baltimore.

SCHLICHTER. Rev. Hiram A. Schlichter was born Dec. 18, 1838; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1861; ordained in 1865; died Nov. 22, 1899; buried at Chambersburg. He married Miss Barbara Strock in 1863. He was an officer in the Civil War. He became one of our strong and influential preachers, serving a number of important pastorates, and was presiding elder 1886-1890. As a preacher he was eloquent, tender and persuasive, never failing to stir the hearts of his hearers to action. He was noted for his genial manners, generous impulses and tender sympathies. (See picture of conference of 1888.)

SMITH. Rev. Jacob C. Smith was born on a farm near Chambersburg, January 22, 1819, and died in York, November 13, 1886. He entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1843 and was ordained in 1846. His first charge was Chambersburg Circuit in 1843, which had thirty appointments, or more. It took four weeks to travel the circuit, preaching every night, and his salary was $100. He married Miss Eliza Staley in 1846. He had marked success as pastor of York First Church. (See history of York First.) He was presiding elder in 1851, but declined re-election. He was a good
man, an able preacher, a much beloved pastor, and very successful as a financier.

SCHWOPE. Rev. Benedict Schwope was born in 1731; died March 30, 1811, and was buried in Kentucky. He was a minister of the Reformed Church and was identified with the famous Pipe Creek Conferences. (See chapter I.) In 1771 he was elected pastor of the group that withdrew from the First Reformed Church, Baltimore, and organized the independent Reformed Church on Howard's Hill, Baltimore. (See story of Old Otterbein Church in chapter IV.) Otterbein succeeded him as pastor in 1774.

SNYDER. Rev. David Snyder was born September 14, 1761 and died February 12, 1819. His remains repose in the old Snyder Graveyard, near Newville, Penna. He was licensed at the conference of 1801. He organized a class and built a church on his farm. Pioneer preachers made his home their stopping place as they itinerated through the valley. Conference met in his home in 1803, 1804, and again in 1831. (See explanation in history of Oakville charge.) At his death he willed $1,000.00 to the conference “to be used for the poor traveling preachers.” His widow died in 1826 and made a similar bequest. These were the first large gifts to benevolences in the United Brethren Church.

SPAYTH. Rev. Henry G. Spayth was the first historian of the United Brethren Church. He was born in Germany in 1788, and died September 2, 1873, in Tiffin, Ohio, where his remains are entombed. He joined our conference in 1812, just before the departure of the church fathers. He labored in Maryland and Virginia and was a delegate to the first General Conference in 1815, serving as one of the secretaries. He was a delegate to six succeeding general conferences, always outstanding in his leadership. He became one of the first ministers in Muskingum Conference, being presiding elder as early as 1821. When his membership in the Eastern Conference terminated is not clear. He was on the roll in 1826 and served as secretary. He was appointed by General Conference to prepare a revised English hymn book, which was published in 1849. He wrote the first history of the United Brethren Church, published in 1851.
THE STATTON BROTHERS

There were four Statton brothers in the United Brethren ministry, all entering by way of Virginia Conference, most of whom served extensively in the Maryland area.

George W. Statton joined the conference in 1848 and served, among other pastorates, Frederick Circuit, Hagerstown Station and Boonsboro Circuit. For a number of years he was a presiding elder. In 1880 he transferred to Des Moines Conference where he became an outstanding leader, serving as presiding elder there. When he retired, he located at Monte Vista, Colorado, in order to be near his children. He died Aug. 8, 1908, at the age of eighty-three.

John F. Statton entered the conference in 1853, served several charges in the Maryland area and then went to Kansas.

David E. Statton went to northern Missouri after the Civil War where he became a large land owner and was one of the charter members of the old North Missouri Conference. He is buried at Powersville, Mo.

Isaac K. Statton, the father of Bishop A. B. Statton, spent fifty-two years in the United Brethren ministry. He was born in 1833. He entered the conference in 1850 and became junior preacher on the Hagerstown Circuit, afterward serving Myersville, Walkersville, Thurmont, Hagerstown and Boonsboro charges. He was the builder of the churches at Walkersville (then called Georgetown), Chewsville, Shiloh (Chewsville charge), Benevola (old church), and Mt. Carmel (Rohrersville Charge). In 1860 he went west and served numerous pastorates in Rock River Conference and also served as presiding elder. Later he went to the Iowa Conference where he served several notable pastorates and was again a presiding elder. Here he built the Lisbon Church, where General Conference met in 1881. Rev. I. K. Statton stood high in the estimation of all who knew him and was a born leader of men. Western College honored him with the Doctor of Divinity degree in 1893. One who knew him well said of him: "He was the noblest and most unselfish Christian gentleman I have ever known." He died in 1903 and is buried in Rose Hill cemetery, Hagerstown, Md.

The history of Bishop A. B. Statton may be found on one of the prefatory pages of this volume.

STEARN. Rev. Charles T. Stearn, D. D., was born January 1, 1839 and died May 19, 1909. He joined Virginia Conference in 1859 and
was ordained in 1863. He served some difficult fields in Virginia Conference, and had to flee for his life because of his Union sympathies during the Civil War. His horse was shot from under him. Coming into Pennsylvania Conference in 1871 he immediately was considered a leader in the work of the conference. He served as one of the presiding elders, 1882-1886, and again from March, 1902 to October, 1904.

WAGNER. Rev. William H. Wagner was born July 19, 1832; entered Pennsylvania Conference in 1871; ordained, 1874; died August 17, 1914; buried at Mt. Pleasant (Hays Grove) Church, Cumberland County, Pa. He was a most successful soul winner and kingdom builder. "None knew him but to love him; none named him but to praise."

WEAVER. Rev. William Henry Weaver was born in York County, Feb. 23, 1861 and died April 29, 1926, with burial at Dillsburg. He entered the conference in 1886 and was ordained in 1889. He served continuously in the pastorate from 1886 to 1911, when he became treasurer of Lebanon Valley College, a position he held with distinction until 1918 when ill health compelled his retirement. He was one of the conference secretaries from 1896 to 1910. Mr. Weaver organized both the Lemoyne and Enola missions and did considerable historical research.
VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, MARCH 3-8, 1886

One year later the Maryland Conference was formed by eighteen of the ministers pictured below. Thirty of these ministers served charges in the western Maryland section and quite a few became identified with Pennsylvania Conference.
BOTTOM ROW—M. F. Keiter, P. J. Lawrence, J. W. Hicks, S. H. Snell, J. D. Donovan, I. M Underwood, Albert Day, J. D. Fried, A. S. Castle.