

Record Book of Baptisms, Marriages and
Members 1865-1890

R E C O R D

OF THE

Port Jefferson

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

Long Island

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Introduction.

THE Discipline of our Church makes it the duty of Presiding Elders, in conducting the business of their respective Quarterly Conferences, to inquire, among other things, "Are the Church Records properly kept?" And, as an index of what should be contained in those records, it requires the Stewards "to record the Marriages and Baptisms," and the Preacher in Charge of a Circuit or Station "to take a regular catalogue of the Societies in towns and cities as they occur in the streets, and to leave his successor a particular account of the Circuit or Station" which he has been serving.

The importance of keeping these records correctly and neatly cannot be overestimated; and any Pastor who, through carelessness, fails to do so is highly culpable, and deserves the censure of his Conference.

From a somewhat extended examination of the matter we find that this duty has in some instances been neglected, while in others it has been performed in an exceedingly indifferent manner—the records of some Churches, even in our largest cities, often embracing nothing more than a simple list of the names of the members of the several classes, without any indication as to what is their state in life, their position in the Church, or their place of residence.

This delinquency has doubtless resulted in part from the fact that, until within a few years, no regular Church Record was published for the use of our Societies, and every Pastor was left to keep his record in his own way, and in such books as he could command at the time. As might be expected, this gave the Church a few records of respectable dimensions, kept in every variety of form; but it more generally produced nothing but small, unsightly, unsubstantial books, which were used for a season, and then thrown aside as useless. And thus much of the early history of our Churches has been irrecoverably lost.

To supply this great want of the Church, and give regularity and uniformity to our records, the Book Concern, some years since, published a Church Record which has been in use, to a greater or less extent, from that time till the present. But experience, and the progress of the Church, have shown that this is defective, both as to its contents and arrangement. Other departments are required, and provision for additional items are needed. Moreover, the different departments of the book are disproportioned in size, one often being entirely filled up before another of equal dimensions is scarcely commenced.

Having ascertained that these defects were injuring the sale of the book, and causing a variety of badly arranged Records to be substituted for it, and receiving, in the mean while, from brethren in different parts of our work, communications expressing a desire for an improved Record, accompanied by brief drafts of such as would suit their views, the publishers had determined to prepare a Record of their own, combining the excellencies of all the plans submitted, and such other items as their own experience and observation might suggest.

But before completing their plans they learned that the Philadelphia Conference, at its late session, had appointed Revs. J. B. M'Cullough, A. Rittenhouse, and J. B. Dennison a committee, to prepare specimens of an improved Record, to be submitted to the Conference at its next session, and, if approved by it, forwarded to the General Conference for adoption.

On inspecting the specimens prepared by this committee, the publishers found that they were more complete than any other that had been submitted, and contained several important items not in their own draft. But on the whole they were thought to be too elaborate for ordinary use, requiring more entries than most ministers would be willing to make, and withal making the work too expensive for most Churches.

To harmonize all views we invited the chairman of the above-named committee to meet us at our office, to which he kindly assented. The whole field was carefully surveyed, the different points of interest thoroughly canvassed, and the plans for the present volume drawn out.

The Record thus prepared, as will be seen by examination, contains *nine* departments, which are arranged in the following order, namely :

- I. HISTORICAL RECORD.
- II. PROBATIONERS' RECORD.
- III. CLASS RECORDS.
- IV. ALPHABETICAL RECORD OF MEMBERS IN FULL CONNECTION.
- V. CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD OF OFFICIAL MEMBERS.
- VI. PASTORAL AND STATISTICAL RECORD.
- VII. RECORD OF BAPTISMS.
- VIII. RECORD OF MARRIAGES.
- IX. APPENDIX.

The manner of using these different departments will be fully explained on the title-page of each respectively.

The Record will be bound up in two or three different sizes, so as to meet the wants of Churches of every grade, from a membership of one hundred to a thousand. Each book, however, will embrace all the departments, and retain the relative proportion of the several parts.

By the use of this book we shall have uniformity in our Records throughout our entire work, so that a minister having learned the manner of keeping them in one charge will be prepared to keep them properly in any other charge to which he may be sent.

Hoping that this effort may give general satisfaction and lead to a better system of Church book-keeping, we commend this volume to the favorable consideration of those for whose use it has been provided.

CARLTON & LANAHAN.

HISTORICAL RECORD.

EXPLANATIONS AND DIRECTIONS.

THIS department is intended to contain a brief record of everything of importance connected with the history of the Church using it. If an old Church, then a brief history of its organization, and of its difficulties and successes, etc., should be entered first, embracing from five to ten pages. After that, each Pastor will be expected to add a page or two at the end of the Conference year, giving a brief account of such matters in connection with the Church as he may deem of sufficient importance to be preserved among its records. Brief obituary notices of distinguished members may be inserted, provided the entire record of the year does not exceed two pages closely written.

Historical Record.

Port Jefferson charge Separated
and independant of June 1848
Smithtown
Stony Brook 1859
Setauket Apr 1873

Sunday Schools May 20th 1848

Stony Brook	Teachers	7	Scholars	30
Port Jefferson	"	"	"	50
Setauket	"	4	"	21

	Rex Samuel W King	1848-9	Died June 27 1878 age 65
Pastors	Samuel ^{Henry} ^{Waltfield} Jords	1850-4	" Mar 21 1877 " 33
	Wm. Wake	1855-6	Ashley Falls Mass.
	John F. Booth	1857-8	" Nov 26 1865 " 36
	Nicholas ^{Sanford} Orchard	1867-2	" May 27 1874 " 68
	Robt. Coaling	1863-4	Died Dec 3-1884.
	Daniel Jords	1865-6-7	Lives in Stony Brook (1871)
	John S. Haugh	1867-8	Lives at Cheshire, (1871)
	Wm. Lawrence	1870-1	Cent first - Witherspoon 1878
	A. B. Smart	1872	Cent first - Transferred to Mather Camp 1874
	Henry Astor	1873-4	Lives in New York 1878
	John Pelkington	1875	Lives at Ricksville Center 1878
	Wm. Ross	1876	Lives at Sea Cliff N.Y. 1878
	Samuel H. Smith	1877-8	210 Genoa Road Brooklyn 1878
	L. Richardson	1879-80	Parkville Brooklyn N.Y.
	W. L. Holmes	1881-83	Stephney Conn.
	G. A. Graves	1884	New Britain Conn. 1878
	E. N. Lane	1885-6	Cheshire Ct - 1878
	G. A. Sande	1887, 8, 9, 90.	Sarison Conn.
	Fr. J. Shackleton	1890, 2, 3	New York
	T. L. Price	1893, 4	Bridgeton
	J. T. Samsom. 93.	195.	Died May 31-1894
	W. W. Minous	98-97	Long Island City
	Dr. Coud	98-98	

Historical Record.

Methodist Church Erected in Thompson Street
 in 1838 reerected in Spring Street 1873
 cost to change \$4428.56

First Sunday School Spring of 1828
 in the Red School House on land in front of
 Mrs. S. Woodhulls.

Year	Teacher	Year	attending S. School
1828	Wm W Brewster	1831	60
1833	J. Hawkins	1833	45
1850	Edgar Brown	1834	45
1862	John W Phillips	1835	37
1856	George W. Sturdivant	1836	33
1867	Smith E Seck	1837	50
1869	Wm Hammond	1838	67
1870	Wm B Darling	1843	77
1873	Henry Astor	1844	79
1876	Henry Wildsore	1845	63
1879	Henry J. Lee	1846	80
1880	Smith E Seck	1847	56
1881	W L Holmes	1848	62
1883	Theo W Wheeler	1849	92
1860	John W Phillips	1850	70
		1857	82
		1868	259
		1870	172
		1872	175
		1874	200
		1879	175

Historical Record.

Isaac Robbins was a Probationer in 1835
all accounts kept on strips of paper handed to
Rev Wm Lawrence by him lost. 1881
Written to Smithburg no account found.

1824

Methodist Society organized in Port Jefferson

Zachariah Hawkins
Chargy Hawkins
Washington Sturdivant
Solomon Sturdivant
Amasa Sturdivant

I was present at the forming of this Society - Jones
Formed by Rev Horace Bartlett died Feb 3 - 1858.
A class meeting held weekly rain or shine
from 1 o'clock to 2 o'clock P.M.