Friday morning, July 29th 1864.

The first session of the Delaware Conference for colored people of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was held in John Wesley Chapel, Philadelphia, July 29th 1864.

Rev. Charles H. Whitecar Presiding Elder of the Bridgton District, New Jersey Conference conducted the religious exercises, after which Bishop James announced that he had carefully examined the papers of recommendation and had found the following preachers entitled to membership in the Conference, viz:—

Isaac Hinson, having been employed by a Presiding Elder 16 years; James Davis, 15; Harrison Smith, 12; Isaiah Broughton, 10; John G. Mantuff, 10; Samuel Dale, 8; Wilmore S. Elsey 6; John H. Pierce, 5; Nathan Young, 4; Joshua Brinkley, 3.

These ten Preachers were then declared by Bishop James the Presiding Officer to constitute the Delaware Conference. The Bishop in a few neat and appropriate remarks congratulated the Conference upon this interesting event in the history of the Church; namely the formation of the first Conference of Colored Preachers under the rule of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He reminded them of the importance of recognizing in this the hand of a Divine Providence and requested the Conference to arise and sing—

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost"—

which they did "with the Spirit and with the understanding" when Rev. Dr. Durbin, Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society being called upon by the Bishop led in prayer. It was an impressive and solemn season—a marked period in the history of the Church.

Wilmore S. Elsey was nominated and elected Secretary of the Conference.

The Bishop then called for the recommendations of Local Deacons for Elders orders.

The following were presented and read, after which each applicant was carefully represented and they were elected, viz—

Solomon Jackson recommended by the Quarterly

Conference of Waugh Circuit, Cambridge, Md.; Frost Pollett, recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Manoken Circuit, Somerset Co., Md. and Samuel Elsey, recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Wycomico Circuit, Somerset Co., Md.

The recommendations of Local Preachers for Deacons orders were called for, when the following were presented and read,—after which each recommendation was fully represented, and they were elected, viz.

Simon Taylor, from	Odessa Circuit,	Delaware.
Daniel R. Oney, "	Milton "	Maryland.
Charles Pollett, "	Wycomico "	"
Henry Morris, "	Manoken "	"
Benjamin Janifer, "	Waugh "	"
John Slater, "	"	"
Peter Hill, "	Milford "	Delaware.

Thomas W. Price of this city having presented to the Conference a valuable Minute Book, the following resolution presented by James Davis and W. S. Elsey was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

Resolved, By the Delaware Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Conference assembled that our hearty thanks are due, and are hereby tendered to Thomas W. Price Esq. of the city of Philadelphia, for the elegant and substantial Record Book suitably lettered, which he has this morning presented to this body, in which our Minutes shall be preserved and transmitted to future Generations.

Frost Pollett having been recommended was received as a member of the Delaware Conference, and his name to be entered as the third on the roll.

The Conference on motion adjourned to meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Second Session.

Friday afternoon, July 29th 1864.

The Conference met, according to adjournment at 4 o'clock. Bishop James in the Chair. Religious services conducted by Isaac Hinson.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Question 1st of the Minutes viz—Who are admitted on trial, was taken up.

The following recommendations were presented and