

**SKETCHES OF METHODISM
IN NORTHWEST
MISSOURI WITH BRIEF
SEMI-CENTENNIAL NOTES**

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Sketches of Methodism in Northwest Missouri with Brief Semi-Centennial Notes by C. I. Van Deventer

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C. I. VAN DEVENTER

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card

W B Chapman.
1894.

W B Chapman



C. J. Vanoverter

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Sketches of Methodism

IN

NORTHWEST MISSOURI

WITH

Brief Semi-Centennial Notes

BY

C. I. VAN DEVENTER,

A Member of the Missouri Annual Conference
of the M. E. Church, South.

COMBE PRINTING COMPANY,
St. JOSEPH, Mo.
1894.

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INTRODUCTION.

Resolutions of the St. Joseph District Conference
Held at Savannah, Mo., April 3, 4 and 5, 1894.

Resolved, By this Conference that its congratulations are due and are hereby extended to our brother, C. I. Van Deventer, who has lived to preach at the opening of this District Conference his semi-centennial sermon as a preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the bounds of the Missouri Annual Conference.

Also, that we rejoice with him over the mighty victories achieved; that the fruitage of the faithful seed-sowing of our fathers of this half century is being manifested; that their mantle has in some measure fallen upon their successors.

Second, Believing that a book of sufficient size to record the more important history of our church in Northwest Missouri (as our brother has been related thereto these fifty years) to cost a moderate sum, would serve as a fitting souvenir from him upon the occasion of his semi-centennial celebration of his life's

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work to his successors in the ministry and laity, therefore

Resolved Second, That it be the request of this body of preachers and laymen, representing this territory where the major part of our brother's ministerial life has been spent—now dotted with churches in which more than 15,000 members worship—that Brother C. I. Vandeverter write and cause to be published such a book, we promising him that it shall not fail of a ready and anxious acceptance at our hands.

FRANK SILER,
J. M. O'BRYEN,
JOHN A. BEAGLE,
W. A. HANNA,
J. S. BOWLES,
A. T. STEPHENSON,
J. M. LANAE,
R. H. COOPER,
Z. M. WILLIAMS,
J. B. ROSS,
J. T. MOREMAN,
T. H. SWEARENGEN,
S. P. CRESAP.

Similar action was taken later by the Plattsburg District Conference held at Lawson, Mo. Also Rev. Z. M. Williams, presiding elder of the Gallatin District, being present at the St. Joseph District Conference, requested in his own behalf and in behalf of his district, that it

also be represented in the proposed history or sketches, the territory of Gallatin District being an important part of northwest Missouri. It is therefore to Northwest Missouri as included chiefly within the boundaries of these three districts that the following sketches will principally apply, although we hope they may not be without some interest to the "regions beyond." Even if all the *data* necessary to do so were at hand, which is not the case, it is not proposed to go far into details or to be minutely chronological or statistical in what we have to say. Our understanding of the special object of this brief treatise (as well as our limited space), will compel us to leave out some valuable matter that otherwise might appear.

We desire, as far as possible, to be correct and accurate in our statements, and in this, our maiden effort at book-making, to minister in some measure to the gratification and profit of the reader, as well as to call out and preserve some important facts concerning the work and workers connected with the rise and progress of Methodism in this great Northwest; and if, from necessity or oversight, either persons or localities of merit should not appear, we are sure the failure will not be attributed to a disposition to be invidious. We especially invoke the guidance and blessing of the Head of the Church in this "labor of love."

C. I. VAN DEVENTER.