

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF REV. CHARLES H. SAGE,
A MEMBER OF THE EAST MICHIGAN
CONFERENCE, FREE METHODIST CHURCH;
EMBRACING AN ACCOUNT OF HIS PIONEER
WORK IN MICHIGAN, OF THE FORMATION OF
THE CANADA CONFERENCE AND OF HIS
LABORS IN VARIOUS STATES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649069231

Autobiography of Rev. Charles H. Sage, a Member of the East Michigan Conference, Free Methodist Church; Embracing an Account of His Pioneer Work in Michigan, of the Formation of the Canada Conference and of His Labors in Various States by Charles H. Sage & Burton R. Jones & William B. Olmstead

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

CHARLES H. SAGE & BURTON R. JONES & WILLIAM B. OLMSTEAD

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF REV. CHARLES H. SAGE,
A MEMBER OF THE EAST MICHIGAN
CONFERENCE, FREE METHODIST CHURCH;
EMBRACING AN ACCOUNT OF HIS PIONEER
WORK IN MICHIGAN, OF THE FORMATION OF
THE CANADA CONFERENCE AND OF HIS
LABORS IN VARIOUS STATES**



yours as ever
C. H. Sage

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

OF

REV. CHARLES H. SAGE *

A member of the East Michigan Conference,
Free Methodist Church.

Embracing an account of his pioneer work in Michigan,
of the formation of the Canada Conference and
of his labors in various states.

With an Introduction by
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT BURTON B. JONES

EDITED BY
WILLIAM B. OLMSTEAD

FREE METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
1908

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
388291B
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
B 1947 L

Boonsgine, December 18, 1946

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.: Date and Place of Birth—Naturally Skeptical—My Mother's Conversion—Father Left Home—Description of our Home—Working Out—Under Conviction—Bound Out—My Schooling.....	7-11
CHAPTER II.: A Schoolmate's Death—Getting Religion—A Wholehearted Christian—Grieving the Spirit—Bright Days—Evil Influence of a Preacher—Apprenticeship Finished.....	12-17
CHAPTER III.: Mother Married—Move to Wisconsin—Hardships—Stepfather Drinking—Married—My Wife Despondent—Starting in Business—A Revival Meeting—A Church Built—Death of Child.....	18-24
CHAPTER IV.: Call to Preach—Move to Troy—Business Increasing—Another Death—A Donation Party—Sunday Sickness—The Church Drifting—Go to California—Fail in Business—Recovered from Backslidden State—The Free Methodists in Troy	25-32
CHAPTER V.: Seeking Holiness—Testifying to Holiness—Opposition—Return to Wisconsin—Move to Michigan—Attend a Sabbath-school Convention—A Revival—At a Camp-meeting—A New Organization—Holding Sunday-schools—W. R. Cusick.....	33-44
CHAPTER VI.: A Camp-meeting—Specially Favored—Following the Golden Rule—Class at Cortland—A Quarterly-meeting—Conversion of Hannah Clark	45-54
CHAPTER VII.: A Public Wedding—Entering the Traveling Connection—On the Flint and Forest Circuit—A Revival Meeting Near Gaines—Assisted by C. B. Barrett—Class Organized by John Ellison	55-65

CHAPTER VIII.: On the Gaines Circuit—Death of My Son Lewis—A Fashionable Dressmaker—Universalism a Failure—Attending a Camp-meeting in Minnesota—Importance of an Education.....	66-71
CHAPTER IX.: Traveling the Macomb Circuit—Holding Protracted Meeting—The Dress Question—Conversion of an Old Man—A Society Organized—Two Other Protracted Meetings—Thorough Work.....	72-78
CHAPTER X.: Returned to Richmond and Ray Circuit—Death of My Son Leslie—Building a Church—Sent to Canada—Robert Loveless—Return to Michigan—Again Sent to Canada—A Revival Hindered—Suspicious of Yankees—Laboring in London	79-85
CHAPTER XI.: Robert Loveless—D. D. Marston and Myself Drive to Canada—Nancy Shantz—Revival at Hannon—An Old Man Converted—Society Organized—The Work in Various Places.....	86-92
CHAPTER XII.: Conference Appointments—A Revival at Bracebridge—Society Organized—Sisters Brown and Hagle in Charge—Our First Camp-meeting in Canada—The Work at Ellesmere—Baptismal Service—Discouragements.....	93-98
CHAPTER XIII.: A Meeting at Iona—A Quarterly-meeting near Armadale—Revival in a Mill—Camp-meeting at Hannon—Manifestations.....	99-103
CHAPTER XIV.: Canada Conference Organized—Sister Shantz at Belhaven—Camp-meeting at Armadale—Camp-meeting near Bracebridge—A Busy Year—Recipe for Lung Trouble—Conference at Hannon..	104-110
CHAPTER XV.: Conference in Waterloo Township—Article from the <i>Earnest Christian</i> —Camp-meeting near Sutton—Baptismal Services—Various Meetings—Revival Near Sheffield in Private Houses...	111-118
CHAPTER XVI.: Sister Hagle Afflicted—Revival at Thames River—Looking South—Camp-meeting and Conference at Kelvin.....	119-121

CONTENTS

iii

- CHAPTER XVII.:** A Sad Mistake—Move to Tennessee—No Stock in Northerners—An Easy Going Religion—Profit in Slaves—We Pray for Deliverance—Move to South Dakota.....122-126
- CHAPTER XVIII.:** In Charge of Olivet Circuit—Joined the Dakota Conference—Conference at Boyden—Elected Chairman—Revivals—Fanaticism.....127-132
- CHAPTER XIX.:** Conference at Sioux Falls—Report on State of the Work—Three Kinds of Preachers—Revival on Grand Meadow Circuit—A Camp-meeting—B. R. Jones—O. A. Harpel—A Tent-meeting—Young Woman Healed—Camp-meeting near Wessington Springs.....133-138
- CHAPTER XX.:** Conference at Wessington Springs—My Wife Stricken with Paralysis—Her Devotion and Death—The Funeral—Obituary—Traveling the District—Lonely and Sad.....139-143
- CHAPTER XXI.:** Conference at Boyden—Elected Chairman—Revival at Gorden City—Choosing Another Companion—Miss Maggie J. Hagle—Married—Journeys—Lost on the Prairie—Fanaticism—Move to Baker City, Oregon—The Work There..144-150
- CHAPTER XXII.:** Conference at Portland—Stationed at Seattle—Rheumatism—Move to Michigan—At Marine City—Secure a Skating Rink—Sent to Bay City—The Work There—Appointed to Marine City.151-157
- CHAPTER XXIII.:** Superannuated—Property at Marine City Sold—Property Purchased at Ovid—Meetings at Turner—Visiting My Sons—Sickness at Three Rivers—Move to Ovid158-161
- CHAPTER XXIV.:** A Wedding—A Confession—Called to Auburn, Michigan—Going around the Walls—A Hotel-keeper—Faithful Dealings.....162-170
- CHAPTER XXV.:** The Church Not Backsliding—Our Issues—Holiness—The Baptism of the Holy Ghost—Qualifications for Soul Saving.....171-174

PREFACE.

MY ONLY object in writing this book is to glorify God and advance his cause. I have no desire to make a display of what I have done, but I do desire to show what God is able to do with very common people, if they are only saved and will walk in the light as God is in the light. While God has often called great men to do his bidding, he has also called a David with his sling and smooth stones to kill Goliath; a Joseph to save his people from starvation; a Gideon with pitcher and lamp to redeem Israel. Joshua took Jericho without a battering-ram. The walls fell down flat. It was God and not man who gave the victory.

In my weakness and ignorance I have felt many times that I was a failure. Then when I would read how God fed thousands with what a lad could carry in a basket, and how he restored the sight of a blind man by anointing his eyes with a little dust wet with spittle, I have taken courage and have felt truly that God was able to take the weak and foolish things to confound the mighty.

I trust that this simple story of my life will be the means of encouraging honest souls to do all they can for Christ even though they may not be as well prepared for service as they might desire. I send it forth in the name of the Master. Please look on what God has wrought, and not on my mistakes and common language.

Yours in Jesus' name,

C. H. SAGE.

Ovid, Michigan, January 1, 1903.