

SIMPSON, BISHOP

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Abraham Lincoln and religion

Bishop Matthew Simpson

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

cured a property now valued at \$200,000, and in behalf of which she superintended the management of several large fairs, which yielded an average of \$20,000 each. She also helped to organize, and was first president of, the Philadelphia Bible-Readers Society. In the Centennial Exhibition, she was a member of the ladies' executive committee, and devised the plan for obtaining sketches and engravings of all the public charities originated and sup-

porting his duties he has visited and held Conferences in all the States and in most of the Territories; was sent by the General Conference as delegate to the Irish and British Conference in 1857, and was also a delegate to the Evangelical Alliance in Berlin the same year, from whence he extended his travels through Turkey, the Holy Land, Egypt, and Greece, returning in 1858. In 1859 he changed his residence from Pittsburgh to Evanston, where he ac-



SIMPSON CENTENARY COLLEGE, INDIANOLA, IOWA.

ported by women. Some 800 of these plans were furnished from various countries in Europe, as well as from the different States. This department is still preserved in the Permanent Exhibition.

Simpson, Matthew, D.D., LL.D., one of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was born in Cadiz, O., June 20, 1811. He received an academic education in his native town, and attended Madison College, Pa. (subsequently merged into Alleghany College), where he was elected to the office of tutor in his nineteenth year. He engaged in teaching, and having studied medicine in 1833, he commenced its practice. About the same time, feeling it his duty to enter the ministry, he was licensed to preach, and was received on trial in the Pittsburgh Conference. In 1837 he was elected vice-president, and Professor of Natural Science in Alleghany College, and in 1839 was elected president of Indiana Asbury University, where he remained until, in 1848, he was elected editor of the *Western Christian Advocate*. In 1852 he was chosen to the office of bishop. In discharg-

ing his duties he has visited and held Conferences in all the States and in most of the Territories; was sent by the General Conference as delegate to the Irish and British Conference in 1857, and was also a delegate to the Evangelical Alliance in Berlin the same year, from whence he extended his travels through Turkey, the Holy Land, Egypt, and Greece, returning in 1858. In 1859 he changed his residence from Pittsburgh to Evanston, where he accepted the position of president of the Garrett Biblical Institute, to which, however, he devoted but little active work. During the Civil War he delivered a number of addresses in behalf of the Union, and was urged by the Secretary of War to undertake the organization of the freedmen at the establishment of the bureau, and was afterwards invited by President Grant to go as a commissioner to San Domingo. Both of these offers he respectfully declined. In 1870, at the death of Bishop Kingsley, he visited Europe to complete the work which had been assigned to him on the Continent, and also as a delegate to the English Conference. In 1874 he visited Mexico, and in 1875 again visited Europe, to hold the Conference of Germany and Switzerland, and also to meet the missionaries in different parts of the Continent. He has written "A Hundred Years of Methodism," and is editor of the *Cyclopaedia of Methodism*.

Simpson, Matthew, Esq., was born in Ireland in June, 1776, and emigrated to America in 1793. He was for many years engaged in teaching, and

SAYS BISHOP SIMPSON LINCOLN'S COL HOUSE

Inspired the Emancipation of Slaves, Dr Wilson Finds

Bishop Matthew Simpson of the Methodist Episcopal Church was to President Abraham Lincoln what Col House was to President Wilson and Mark Hanna to President McKinley, confidential but unofficial adviser, and it was at the suggestion of the bishop that President Lincoln appointed Edwin M. Stanton Secretary of War and later issued his proclamation emancipating the slaves, said Rev Dr Clarence True Wilson, secretary of the Methodist Church Board of Temperance, last evening at the monthly dinner of the Boston Methodist Social Union, in Ford Hall.

Dr Wilson told of his discoveries in inspecting three trunksful of letters and papers of Bishop Simpson recently, in search of biographical data in regard to the bishop, who died in 1884.

Dr Wilson declared that he found in the collection various letters from President Lincoln, and from Mrs Lincoln to Mrs Simpson, and they, with the bishop's manuscript diary, revealed facts referred to and many others almost as unfamiliar.

Dr Wilson recalled that "Lincoln had never been an abolitionist, but had intended to save the Union if possible by force of arms, without interfering with slavery, which was sanctioned by the Federal Constitution."

The speaker told of a letter sent by Bishop Simpson to the President on Jan 8, 1862, after a series of military defeats of the Federal Army, declaring to the President that "his cause would never be successful as long as military victory for both sides meant the perpetuation of slavery."

The bishop then met the President and after each had prayed twice for divine guidance Lincoln issued his emancipation proclamation," Dr Wilson asserted.

Gen Grant and Bishop Simpson were related, Dr Wilson stated. Grant's name was Ulysses Simpson Grant, he and the bishop receiving the same Simpson from the same ancestor.

Dr Wilson's recital continued: "When Gen Grant, after he had won several victories in the West, was removed from his command because cer-

tain reports had not been received from him by his superior, Gen Halleck, Grant wrote to Bishop Simpson of his predicament."

The bishop hurried to Washington from Indiana, explained to President Lincoln that Grant's reports had accidentally gone astray and that "a fatal blunder had been made in removing the only General who had won victories for the Union." The President then reinstated Grant, who resumed his victories.

According to Dr Wilson, the bishop recommended the appointment of Stanton, a Democrat, as Secretary of War, because he knew Stanton's capacity for the position, after Lincoln had demonstrated to him that if he appointed any one of the five Republican candidates he was then considering he would make enemies of the followers of each of the other four.

The President made the appointment after the bishop had drawn from him an admission that "many Democrats were fighting for the Union as loyally as Republicans."

Shelved Salmon Chase

Dr Wilson next asserted that the Simpson papers show that Salmon P. Chase, Lincoln's first Secretary of the Treasury, alleged to have been very troublesome owing to his ambition to displace Lincoln in the White House, was shelved on the Supreme Court bench by the President by the advice of the bishop, a life-long friend of Chase.

The speaker declared that he found among Bishop Simpson's papers letters from President Andrew Johnson, President and Mrs Hayes, President Garfield, Secretary of War Stanton and Gens Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Thomas.

A letter written by President Lincoln, it was stated, regretting inability to attend a patriotic meeting during the Civil War, read: "Find Bishop Simpson. I'd rather have him speak for me than any other man in the world."

At the close of Dr Wilson's address Bishop William F. Anderson proposed that New England Methodists provide the necessary money, probably from \$2000 to \$3000, to enable Dr Wilson to have a biography of Bishop Simpson prepared from the data now in his possession.

Linwood F. Gifford, president of the union, expressed confidence that the publication will be provided for.

Dr Lewis O. Hartman spoke and Miss Virginia Sawyer sang, with Miss Ruth Haeuber as accompanist. Rev Oliver B. Quick made the invocation and pronounced benediction.

The attendance was about 175.

Boston Daily Globe

WEDNESDAY, FEB 26, 1930

The Orator at Lincoln's Funeral Rites

"THE LIFE OF MATTHEW SIMPSON," by Robert D. Clark [Macmillan, 344 pages, \$5.50].

Reviewed

by Clarence Seidenspinner

It was Bishop Matthew Simpson who read the funeral service on Capitol hill for Abraham Lincoln. A little later, on May 4, at Springfield, Ill., where Abraham Lincoln was buried, it was Bishop Simpson who delivered the funeral oration. In a report of the address, THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE called it "a critical and wonderfully accurate analysis of the late president's character," and "one of the most masterly efforts ever delivered by this eloquent speaker." Such was the ability and the popularity of one of the best known Methodist bishops of the 19th century. In many ways, he had a fabulous career.

• • •
He was born and reared in the little Ohio village of Cadiz. Tho his father died when Matthew was a youngster, he was fortunate to have a school teaching uncle who guided him along the perilous paths of vital religion, self-training for the ministry, and ecclesiastical success.

Because of his wide range of reading, the soundness of his understanding, and the extraordinary eloquence of his public speech, he quickly became the much sought after minister. While still in his twenties, he was called upon to become president of the new Indiana Asbury college, now DePauw university. Following that, he served a four year stint as the editor of a church paper and then at an early age was elected to the episcopacy with lifetime tenure.

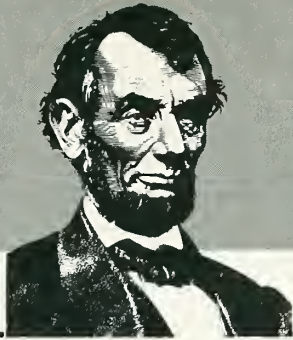
• • •
He became a new kind of



Robert D. Clark

Methodist bishop, one who interested himself in the social and economic problems of the day and discussed them publicly according to his best judgment. He dabbled in the politics of both his country and his church. He accumulated \$100,000 thru his speeches and his investments. Where he was not hated, he was adored. Author Clark, chairman of the department of speech at the Univer-

sity of Oregon, has done a wonderfully fascinating job in telling Simpson's story.



Lincoln Lore

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From Our Archives

Editor's Note: For the last several months the Foundation Staff has been re-filing and cataloguing some of the manuscripts that are a part of the great accumulation of Lincoln and related material that has been collected since 1928. In going over these letters and documents one occasionally finds items, some of which are unpublished, that merit mention (with some elaboration) in *Lincoln Lore*. This issue of our bulletin is given over to a few of these interesting manuscripts. The reader will note that the manuscripts selected represent a cross section of our holdings. —R. G. M.

Edwin M. Stanton Named Supreme Court Justice

Edwin McMasters Stanton is remembered today as Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of War (nominated and confirmed on June 15, 1862), and his abilities as a lawyer and versatile administrator have never been questioned. Few people are cognizant of the fact that Stanton, a Democrat, also served as attorney-general in James Buchanan's Cabinet having been appointed to that position on December 20, 1860, when the President reorganized his Cabinet. Even fewer people are aware of the fact that President Ulysses S. Grant appointed Stanton to a justiceship on the United States Supreme Court and that his nomination was confirmed on December 20, 1869.

Since the date of Lincoln's death, Stanton's reputation has suffered a sharp decline. He retained his post under Andrew Johnson and very soon came into conflict with the new President and his administration. He has been charged with playing into the hands of the radicals, of being guilty of intrigue with the rising opposition, and of fostering a punitive Southern policy. Some biographers, rightly or wrongly have criticized Stanton for defects of temperament, of disloyalty and duplicity in official relations which, be they true or not, detract from his stature as a public official.

Some biographers and historians who have made a detailed study of Andrew Johnson's administration have surmised that Stanton was disloyal for political purposes, and that he was motivated by egotism, a mistaken brand of patriotism, and the desire for some unknown reason, to stand well with the congressional opposition. Interestingly enough, while Stanton's reputation has declined, Johnson's reputation has undergone a gradual rehabilitation.

Stanton is an interesting figure in United States history, and until recent years has been badly in need of a competent biographer. This need has certainly been met with the publication of *Stanton—The Life and Times of Lincoln's Secretary of War*, by Benjamin P. Thomas and Harold M. Hyman, which came from the press in 1962 and was published by Alfred A. Knopf.

Stanton resigned as Secretary of War after the Johnson impeachment charges failed (May 26, 1868). Over-exertion and internal ailments undermined his health, necessitating a complete rest. However, he was able, before the year was over, to support Grant's candidacy for the Presidency and to resume a limited law practice.

After Grant's election, friends prevailed upon the President to give Stanton a place on the Supreme Court bench as a replacement for Roger Brooke Taney who died on October 12, 1864, and the former Secretary worked untiringly for the appointment. Stanton for many years had delighted in the sermons of the Methodist bishop, Matthew Simpson, and they became close friends. Working through the clergyman, who enjoyed considerable prestige, Stanton asked him to intervene with the President on his behalf.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Edwin M. Stanton
1814 - 1869

The Lincoln Library-Museum of the Lincoln National Life Foundation has three letters written by Stanton to Simpson, two of which are dated October 26, 1869 and one, November 3, 1869. One of these letters is a formal statement of regret over the Secretary's and Mrs. Stanton's inability to be present for the wedding of Bishop Simpson's daughter. This letter was enclosed with another of the same date marked "Private & Confidential."

"My Dear Friend

"This note is accompanied by the regret of Mrs. Stanton and myself that we are unable to attend your daughter's marriage, and by our good wishes for her and her husband's happiness. What I add herein, you will please to consider as *strictly personal* and confidential.

"You have been aware of my infirm health during the past year, and will be glad to know that by relaxation from labor, & travel it has very much improved so as to encourage hopes that it may be fully restored to enable me to enjoy some years longer of usefulness. But this may depend upon how I am employed. When I left my private pursuits for the public interest I had the best professional practice in the United States, was rapidly accumulating wealth, & living at ease. My expenses above my salary exhausted my surplus resources and with years ad-

vanced, and diminished strength I must toil for my living. There is a vacancy on the Supreme Bench for which I have adequate physical power, & so far as I can judge of my intellect, its powers are as acute & vigorous as at any period of my life—and perhaps more so.

"General Grant in justice to the Country, to himself & to me, ought to give *me* that appointment. So far as relates to himself not all his friends in the United States, upheld & advanced him as firmly & successfully during the war as I did in my official acts. There is no man who would uphold the principles of the war on which his usefulness & fame must rest, with more or equal vigor from the Bench. The Bench has now a great part to play in history during his administration, and upon no experienced resolute jurist, can he rely with greater confidence. My appointment would gratify the great mass of republicans, & rally them around Grant—it would be considered as disinterested, unpurchased, and a sure proof of the President's loyal determination. My residence here in the District is also a recommendation being free from Geographical discriminations.

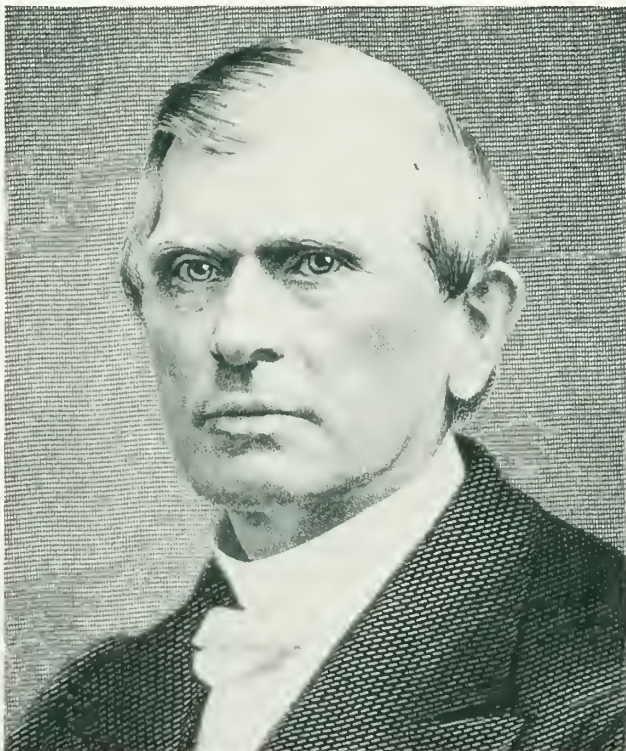
"I have said *nothing* to General Grant on the subject and *shall not*—but I would be glad to have *you* talk with him fully & freely and report to me his views on this question. To me it may in considerable degree be a question of life—it certainly is of health, for I must go to the Bench or Bar. His name & fortune he owed at a critical moment to me. He can preserve me to my family under Providence. I have communicated to you more fully than ever before to mortal man, & in confidence you will do what seems right of which you are a better judge than I am.

"Hoping to see or hear from you soon I am ever

Yours Edwin M. Stanton

Rt Rev Bishop Simpson"

Grant reacted favorably at first to the Methodist Bishop's entreaties, but George W. Childs, a Philadelphia banker who was friendly with the President, insisted



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Matthew Simpson
1811 - 1884

American Methodist Episcopal Clergyman. Spoke widely in support of Union cause during the Civil War and delivered eulogy at Lincoln's burial service in Springfield, Illinois.

that Stanton's health was a factor to take into consideration when the former War Secretary's name was presented for appointment to the Supreme Court bench. Bishop Simpson reported to Stanton as to how the matter of the appointment stood, and Stanton replied on November 3, 1869:

"My Dear Friend

"I am under much obligation for your note received this morning. When I heard that your daughter & her husband were to start so soon for Europe it caused me much regret to have troubled you with any affair of my own, but I hope it gave you no inconvenience. The result of your conference is very plain to me, and gives me no surprise, being what I have expected, and I am quite sure that you will conform to my wish that the matter be strictly confidential and confined to your own bosom. In regard to Childs, who for several years has been an active bitter enemy of mine because of my annulling a bargain between him & Gen'l Cameron which I disapproved—he doubtless *knows* the President's purpose, and my health is made an evasive excuse by Childs for a predetermined purpose, influenced by quite different consideration from that assigned. I shall take no step in the matter, and no allusion to it has ever been made except in my letter to you.

"So far as my health is concerned it is in the hands of Providence, and as respects Gen'l Grant he will be influenced by his judgment as to his own interest.

"I regret that it was not in my power to leave home to witness your daughter's marriage ceremony and make her husband's acquaintance. I hope they have a pleasant location in Italy. Their residence in that favored climate may tempt you to take the relaxation of a visit where there is much of interest and thus guard your own health from the dangers that I have apprehended you were incurring by too much labour and care.

"With many thanks and most sincere affection I am

Truly Yours

Edwin M. Stanton

Rt. Rev. Bishop Simpson"

Despite Stanton's insistence that Bishop Simpson cease to push his case, the Methodist clergyman continued to press Grant for the appointment, and he was assisted by other friends of Stanton. On December 20th, 1869 Grant named Stanton for the supreme bench, and his nomination was confirmed on December 20th, the day following his fifty-fourth birthday. Four days later Edwin McMasters Stanton was dead.

Lincoln's Proposed Cabinet

Editor's Note: In the archives of the Lincoln National Life Foundation is to be found a three page manuscript, in handwriting that resembles that of John G. Nicolay, which describes in some detail the manner in which President Abraham Lincoln selected his first Cabinet.

"It was, with two exceptions, the same as that which, four months later, he commenced his administration. His first cast of persons to compose the administration was as follows:

Lincoln	Judd
Seward	Chase
Bates	Blair
Dayton	Welles

"The four names in the first column, including that of Mr. Lincoln himself, were of men who in their political antecedents had been Whigs, while the four in the opposite parallel column were democrats in their principles and convictions, though Mr. Chase never identified himself with the democratic organization. He was distinctly anti-slavery, but concurred with the democrats in supporting the rights of the States and an advocate of a strict construction of the Constitution.

"Nathaniel (Norman) B. Judd of Chicago was an active and influential politician of Illinois, and for many years a leading member of the legislature of that state. He was also a member of the Republican National Committee, and probably did more than any other individual to bring forward and secure the nomination of Mr. Lincoln, for whom he had high regard and friendship, which was fully reciprocated. The President informed me that he had, personally a stronger desire that Judd should be associated with him in the administration than any one else but he was from Illinois, and there were political and other circumstances which intervened. Instead of a



cabinet appointment therefore he received the Prussian mission which he filled during Mr. Lincoln's Administration, but he was recalled soon after Mr. Lincoln's death on representations made by Mr. Seward.

"William L. Dayton of New Jersey, who was designated for a position in the original cast of the Cabinet was appointed minister to France. He had been the successful competitor with Mr. Lincoln for the nomination of Vice President in 1856, and was held in especial esteem by him. There was, however, as usual a strong local claim for Pennsylvania, without any distinguished statesman in whom the President had such faith and confidence as he had in Mr. Dayton, but the pressure from without as well as from within the state and with certain complications of his friends led to the substitution of Mr. Cameron. It was the first intention of the President, as I have understood, after this substitution to have conferred on Mr. Dayton the mission to St. James; but Mr. Seward, who was to have charge of foreign affairs, preferred that Mr. Adams should have the English appointment and Mr. Dayton therefore received the mission to France.

"These changes in the original programme or cast of the Cabinet, did not affect the purpose of the President to have in his council an equal number of men of opposing parties in the past. Caleb Smith a Whig and Simon Cameron a democrat took the place of Judd a democrat and Dayton a Whig."

Autograph of "Old Abe"

On May 18, 1860 Abraham Lincoln was nominated for the Presidency by the Republican National Convention in Chicago. Immediately thereafter the Presidential candidate was besieged with well-wishers, a notification committee, photographers, politicians, congratulatory telegrams and innumerable letters. Some of the letters requested Mr. Lincoln's autograph, and William E. Norris of Pittsfield, Illinois, must have been one of the first to make such a request, as the following letter indicates:

Friend William

Mr. Lincoln has been so occupied with men who have called to see him, that I couldn't get a chance at him, since the receipt of your letter until this morning. I enclose you his autograph.

Yours
Jno. G. Nicolay

Upon receiving the letter, Norris wrote on the bottom

portion of the original sheet the following:
Pittsfield May 28th, 1860

Uncle Isaac
Enclosed you will find the autograph of "Old Abe" as promised with the letter of Mr. Nicolay as a voucher for its genuineness. Folks are all well. No letters have arrived for you up to this date.

Yours
Wm. E. Norris

While this original letter has been preserved in the Foundation's collection, the autograph of "Old Abe" is missing.

" . . . when the intelligence was received of the surrender of the Confederate forces . . ."

In the early 1890s John E. Remsburg compiled a series of reminiscences of the prominent men of the Civil War period for inclusion in his book *Abraham Lincoln: Was He a Christian?* The Truth Seeker Company, New York, 1893. The compiler's conclusion was negative.

On April 11th, 1891 Hugh McCulloch, who had served as Secretary of the Treasury under Lincoln and Johnson (1865-69), and under Arthur (1884-85), received a letter from Remsburg making the usual inquiries regarding the religion of the Sixteenth President. Although McCulloch did not reside in Fort Wayne at this time, his letter addressed to Remsburg was postmarked in this city on April 15th. Due to our lack of information as to the contents of the Remsburg letter, the first paragraph is meaningless:

"Yours of the 11th inst duly came to hand. I can answer, yes, to both of your inquiries. I send you a copy of his reply and am pleased that it is so complete and satisfactory.

"The description of what occurred, at the executive mansion, when the intelligence was received of the surrender of the confederate forces, which you quote from the *Western Christian Advocate* is not only absolutely groundless, but absurd. After I became Sec-



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Hugh McCulloch
1808 - 1895

American lawyer and banker born in Kennebunk, Maine. Practiced law in Fort Wayne, Indiana (1833); bank official, Fort Wayne 1835-63). U. S. Comptroller of the Currency (1863-65); U. S. Secretary of the Treasury (1865-69) and again (1884-85).

retary of the Treasury I was present at every Cabinet meeting, and I never saw Mr. Lincoln or any of his ministers upon his knees or in tears.

"We were not especially jubilant over Lee's surrender, for this we had been prepared for some days. The time for our great rejoicing was a little earlier. After Gen. Sherman had commenced his celebrated march to the sea, and long and weary days had passed without any reliable reports from him, we were filled with anxiety and apprehension. It was when the news came that he and his army in excellent condition, were in the neighborhood of Charleston, that our joy was irrepressible, not only because of their safety, but because it was an assurance that the days of the Confederacy were nearly ended. With Grant before Richmond, in command of Superior forces, and Sherman with the finest army in the world, ready to move northward, everybody felt that the war must be soon concluded, and that the Union was safe.

"We were, of course, happy when Gen. Lee and his severely tried soldiers, laid down their arms, but this, as I have said, was not unexpected. It was when our anxiety in regard to Sherman, was succeeded by hopefulness and confidence, that our joy became exuberant, but there was no such exhibition of it as has been published by the Advocate."

Mr. N. P. Stockbridge
Hugh McCulloch

As the theme of McCulloch's April 15, 1891 letter did not dwell upon Mr. Lincoln's religion, Remsburg did not incorporate it into his book. Instead he selected from the *Reminiscences of Lincoln*, pages 412-413, McCulloch's statement regarding Lincoln's lack of regard for creeds and dogmas, but the compiler did record the Secretary's contention that "He (Lincoln) was a man of strong religious convictions . . ."

William J. Ferguson Saw Booth Shoot Lincoln

New York. June 19, 1914.

Mr. Edward Freiberger.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of June 17th asking me what my position was at Ford's Theatre, in Wash. D.C. on the night of the assassination of President Lincoln. I must tell you that it is a subject that is distressing to me to recall; however, I would respectfully state, that, I was Call Boy of Ford's Theatre, consequently, the only member of that company now acting. My post of duty was at the prompter's Box, opposite and in full view of the President's Box. I saw the occurrence, pulling down the curtain for the last time.

Sincerely yours

W. J. Ferguson.

In 1930 the Houghton Mifflin Company, Cambridge, Massachusetts, published one thousand copies of a book titled *I Saw Booth Shoot Lincoln*, by the actor, W. J. Ferguson. The work is amply illustrated, and the narrative of the assassination is dramatically reported by the one-time Call Boy.

A letter written by Ferguson from New York on June 19, 1914, addressed to Mr. Edward Freiberger, has found its way into the Foundation's collection:

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of June 17th asking me what my position was at Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C. on the night of the assassination of President Lincoln, I must tell you that it is a subject that is distressing to me to recall; however, I would respectfully state, that, I was Call Boy of that theatre, consequently, the only member of that company now acting. My post of duty was at the prompter's Box, opposite and in full view of the President's Box. I saw the occurrence,

rang down the curtain for the last time.

Sincerely yours
Wm. J. Ferguson

"Boston" Corbett

About ten years ago the director of the Lincoln Library-Museum purchased from a book catalogue a manuscript account of Thomas "Boston" Corbett, who allegedly shot John Wilkes Booth on April 26, 1865. Writing with a pencil, five years after the affair (1870), an unknown Philadelphia *Sunday World* correspondent described Corbett as living in "a little old forlorn-looking house at Camden, New Jersey" and proceeded to quote his conversation and to describe his appearance. Corbett was one of the mysterious figures of the Lincoln assassination story, and his ultimate end remains to this day a mystery.

The correspondent's penciled notes follow:

Boston Corbett who shot Wilkes Booth, lives in a little old forlorn-looking house at 328 Pine St., Camden N.J., where he has been visited by a correspondent of the Philadelphia *Sunday World*. This writer describes Corbett as short in stature, with a resolute and rather stern face. He is about forty years old, is very plain in dress and his principal boast appears to be his devotion as a Methodist. He busily plys his trade as a hatter. He lives alone in his little house, doing his own cooking and housekeeping, and seeing nobody but members of the little flock of Methodists, which meet nightly at his house and of which he is the head. Heaped together in a corner of his kitchen are half a dozen rough benches for the use of his congregation. He preaches and exhorts himself and uses a Windsor chair for a pulpit. When asked if the name "Boston" was not a nickname he became rather angry, and his eyes flashed, and holding on high a Testament with the name "Boston Corbett" printed on it in black ink he said, pointing his finger at the name, "Young man, there is my name; the only one I shall ever own. In Boston I was converted; there met my Redeemer, and Boston is the only name I wish to be called by."

As he accompanied his visitor to the gate he said, "On that eventful morning of my life, as I shot the assassin crouched like a savage beast in the recesses of the barn, I felt that I was doing my duty to my God and my country. To this day I feel justified in my course. Were the ghosts of twenty assassins to rise against me, they could not disturb a calm Christian Spirit."



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Thomas "Boston" Corbett

This fanatic was alleged to have shot Lincoln's assassin.

represented Canadian labor at several inter-therings, perhaps the most dramatic being the al Socialist Congress in Vienna, in the first e war of 1914-18. He toured Europe as a t appointee on various labor and education as, and lectured internationally on behalf of . From 1916-22 he promoted these causes newspaper, *The Industrial Banner*, of which or and publisher.

maintained throughout an active life within list and United Churches, and in interdenomi- ganizations such as Christian Endeavor, the Alliance, the Dominion Prohibition Alliance, Social Service Council of Canada, of which he ne time a vice-president. He was approached hodist General Superintendent, S. D. CHOWN, a post as interpreter of church to labor and urch; and although Chown's plan was blocked, mained the most accessible labor leader of the members of the Department of Evangelism Service, a fact which, in particular, cut some s of the church in the printers' strike of 1921, e large Methodist Publishing House was deeply was out of this long history of activities in m on a broad front that he gathered the ch brought him regular election to the Toronto ontrol after 1930 and in election as mayor in 1935. He was defeated, however, in 1936; ears later, recovering from a lengthy illness, tor accident.

um, November, 1938.
 , *Canadian Men and Women of the Time*. Toron-
 e, January 2, 1935. A. R. ALLEN

JOHN DIXON (1858-1921), American min- com in Bradford, Coosa County, Ala., April his parents moved to Prattville, Ala., where his elementary and high school education. ensed to preach in 1877. In 1878 he was trial into the ALABAMA CONFERENCE, and o the Rimbart Hill charge. In 1879 he was Hortense Wilson of Mobile, Ala., to which r born two children, John and Hortense. He d DEACON by Bishop MCTYEIRE at Pensa- i 1880, and two years later, at Troy, Ala., ined ELDER. He transferred to the NORTH NFERENCE in 1883. Later he attended South- y, at Greensboro, Ala., where he graduated he North Alabama Conference he served as ling elder, and college president with dis- ing the Florence, Decatur, Tuscaloosa, and Districts.

as called to the presidency of BIRMINGHAM- COLLEGE in 1910, where he served until 1.1, a vacancy having occurred on the Bir- trict, he was appointed to serve the district ce, in connection with the presidency of the 916 he was appointed as pastor of First hens. In November 1918, he became pastor ch, Woodlawn, in the Birmingham District. ne 18, 1921, and was buried in the Oak te, Birmingham, Ala.

G. FRED COOPER

SIMPSON, JOHN FISHER (1887-1963), American edu- cational leader and editor of the *Texas Christian Advo- cate*, was born at Utopia, Texas, March 24, 1887, son of John Harper and Fannie (Fisher) Simpson. He married Grace Willard, Dec. 21, 1910, and they had one daugh- ter, Catherine (Mrs. William T. Meyers). He was educated at SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, A.B., 1909; D.D., 1933; University of Texas, M.A., 1930; VANDERBILT, B.D., 1924; graduate study, University of Chicago and Union Semi- nary, New York. He was received in the TEXAS CONFER- ENCE in 1909, and transferred to the SOUTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE in 1911. His appointments included: Giddings, Texas, 1909-10; student, Vanderbilt, 1911-12; Miles, Texas, 1912; Sherwood Circuit, Texas, 1913; Potet Circuit, Texas, 1914; San Benito, Texas, 1915; Cuero dis- trict, 1922; executive secretary, Board of Education, Southwest Texas Conference, 1924-30; Director, Leader- ship Education, General Board of EDUCATION (MES), 1930-39, and The Methodist Church, 1939-48; Minister of Education, Travis Park Church, SAN ANTONIO, Texas, 1948-49; Editor of the *Texas Christian Advocate*, 1949- 59, when he retired with fifty years of service. He was a member of GENERAL CONFERENCES of 1930, 1938, and UNITING CONFERENCE, 1939. He was the author of *The Workers Conference*, 1943. He died July 19, 1963, and is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Ft. Worth, Texas.

C. T. Howell, *Prominent Personalities*. 1945.
 Journal of the Southwest Texas Conference, 1964.
 O. W. Nail, *Texas Methodism*. 1961. J. DANIEL BARRON



MATTHEW SIMPSON

SIMPSON, MATTHEW (1811-1884), a strong and com- manding American bishop, was born at Cadiz, Ohio, on June 2, 1811. He spent two months at MADISON COLLEGE in Unionville, Pa., and then studied medicine under Dr. James McBean of Cadiz and qualified as a practitioner.

In 1834 he joined the PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE of the M.E. Church on trial and was sent to the Cadiz cir- cuit, then to PITTSBURGH, and then to Williamsport. In 1837 he became Professor of Natural Science in ALLE- GHENY COLLEGE and in 1839 he was elected President of Indiana Asbury University (later DEPAUW UNIVERSITY). Here he remained for nine years, declining during the period the presidency of NORTHWESTERN, DICKINSON and WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

He was a member of the GENERAL CONFERENCE of

1844 which adopted the PLAN OF SEPARATION resulting in the formation of the M.E. Church, South. He was an outstanding anti-slavery advocate. At the General Conference of 1848 he spoke against receiving LOVICK PIERCE as a fraternal delegate from the southern Church and was the author of the resolution which repudiated the Plan of Separation. The adoption of this resolution led to an appeal to law and the U. S. Supreme Court upheld the southern position.

In 1848 Simpson became editor of the *Western Christian Advocate* and through its columns he carried on an energetic anti-slavery crusade. He was elected a bishop in 1852.

In 1857 he was fraternal delegate to the British and Irish Conferences and to the Evangelical Alliance in BERLIN. From Europe he proceeded to the Holy Land. He was elected president of GARRETT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY in 1859, and while he moved from Pittsburgh to EVANSTON, Ill., he devoted little time to the affairs of the Seminary.

Simpson knew Abraham Lincoln and when the latter became President the bishop plunged deeply into politics. He attempted to secure the appointment of Methodists to national offices and was successful to a considerable degree. Then he took up another project.

He and his colleague, Bishop AMES, secured from Secretary of War Stanton an order instructing the Union Generals to place at Simpson's disposal all of the conquered churches of the M.E. Church, South. The bishop seized McKendree Church in NASHVILLE, Tenn., the present Church Street Church in KNOXVILLE, and others in TENNESSEE, LOUISIANA and elsewhere. It seems that Lincoln was not aware of this action and apparently did not approve of it, since he countermanded an order to turn over a Southern Presbyterian Church in St. Louis to the northern branch of that denomination. On the death of Lincoln the bishop visited President Andrew Johnson, and while disliking the new President, he thought Johnson would "be harder on the South" than his predecessor. In this he was mistaken, for Johnson demanded that Simpson return McKendree Church to its owners. The bishop delayed two months but finally complied. Simpson warmly favored the impeachment of the President.

In 1863 Simpson moved to PHILADELPHIA where some laymen gave him a home. During the whole course of the war he delivered addresses favorable to the Northern cause. He attended the opening of the Sanitary Fair at Philadelphia in 1864 at the request of Lincoln, and his speech on that occasion denounced the Southern leaders. On the death of Lincoln the bishop preached his funeral at the White House and also at Springfield where the slain President was buried.

Simpson was the author of *A Hundred Years of Methodism, Lectures on Preaching, and Cyclopaedia of Methodism*. He died at Philadelphia on June 18, 1884.

R. D. Clark, *Matthew Simpson*. 1956.

G. R. Crooks, *Matthew Simpson*. 1890.

Dictionary of American Biography.

Simpson Manuscripts in the Library of Congress.

E. M. Wood, *Matthew Simpson*. 1909. ELMER T. CLARK

SIMPSON, WILLIAM (1812-1864), American circuit rider, was born Jan. 22, 1812, in Huntingdon County, Pa., and joined the M.E. Church in 1832. Emigrating to Centerville, St. Joseph Co., Mich. (1833), he served as

CLASS LEADER and received an EXHORTER'S license 1836, soon after removing to Hennepin, Ill., where Presing Elder John Sinclair employed him to travel Bureau Circuit. Transferred to Bloomington Circuit on April 1837, he received a preacher's license and, joining ILLINOIS CONFERENCE (Sept. 27, 1837), was assigned Helena Circuit, Wisconsin Territory. He served Bellevue Circuit in 1838 and Prairie Du Chien, Wis., in 1839.

When the Illinois Conference was divided (1840) Simpson became a ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE itinerant assigned successively to Lancaster (1840), Hamilton Grove (1841), Ft. Madison (1842), and West Point (1843). He married Nancy Range on Feb. 22, 1842.

An original member of the IOWA CONFERENCE, a pioneer Iowa preacher served Mt. Pleasant (1844-45), Pleasant Valley (1846-47), and Cedar (1848-49), before traveling as Council Bluffs missionary in 1850 and 1851, organizing a circuit and forming several societies. Leaving the Council Bluffs Mission with 240 members, Simpson after preaching at Brighton (1852) and Ft. Madison (1853), was presiding elder of Montezuma District in 1854 and of Oskaloosa District in 1855-58. He was reserve delegate to GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1856 and 1860. After serving New London and Agency City, was assigned to Marshall (now Wayland), Iowa, where he died Feb. 22, 1864.

A. W. Haines, *Makers of Iowa Methodism*. 1900. *Minutes of the Annual Conferences of the M.E. Church, 1837-1864*.

E. H. Waring, *Iowa Conference*. 1910.

Yearbook of the Iowa Conference, 1844-1864.

MARTIN L. GREEN

SIMPSON COLLEGE, Indianola, Iowa, was established as Indianola Male and Female Seminary in 1860. The name was changed to Simpson Centenary College in 1867, honoring Bishop MATTHEW SIMPSON of the M.E. Church. The present name was taken in 1884. A gift of \$100,000 from Mrs. HENRY PFEIFFER in 1899 sparked a building program for the college which has resulted in the erection of fifteen new buildings. The Gardner Cowles Foundation gave \$176,000 for the Carver Science Hall, and \$200,000 for the million-dollar Dunn Library. Carver Science Hall is perhaps the only building erected on a preponderantly white campus to honor a Negro.

George Washington Carver, the distinguished Negro scientist, had his first two years of college work at Simpson College. Degrees offered are the B.A. and B.M. (Music). The governing board has forty-three members, seven ex officio, three elected by alumni, all confirmed by the South Iowa Annual Conference.

JOHN O. GROSS

SIMS, DAVID HENRY (1886-1965), American bishop of the A.M.E. CHURCH, was born in Alabama, on July 18, 1886. He received the A.B. degrees from Georgia State and Oberlin College (Ohio); the B.D. degree from the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology; and the A.M. degree from the University of Chicago. He was later awarded honorary degrees by MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE in Georgia, Allen University in South Carolina and WEBSTER UNIVERSITY in Ohio. Following his ordination as DEACON and ELDER, he served as pastor in OHIO, RHODE ISLAND and SOUTH CAROLINA. In 1924 he was

*file - Religion
P. Teachers
Bishop Simpson*

De Pauw Archives

SIMPSON, MATTHEW

1811 - 1884

PRESIDENT 1839 - 1848

D.C.#71

- Folder 1 Original letters (186) to Matthew Simpson from men in all walks of life.
A microfilm contains 433 letters to Simpson including the 186 originals.
Card index file to letters with annotations in card catalog.
- Folder 2 Original letters continued
- Folder 3 Original letters continued
- Folder 4 Letters regarding Elston Perpetual Scholarships
- Folder 5 Letters - Miscellaneous: 1848, typed resignation letter from Simpson, copied from I.A.U. Board of Trustees & Visitors, v. 1, 1837-1852.
1850 letter to Dr. W. R. Genung, including a recommendation of Genung by Simpson
1878 letter, Simpson to Col. James Riley Weaver (Weaver married Simpson's daughter)
1879 letter, Simpson to Judge Iglehart about Dr. Tingley's dismissal.
- Folder 6 Communications (113) to Simpson 1841-1882
(These have been microfilmed)
- Folder 7 Addresses: delivered by Governor Wallace and President Simpson at Indiana Asbury University
- Folder 8 Funeral address delivered by Simpson at the burial of President Abraham Lincoln, May 4, 1865.
- Folder 9 Articles and Clippings -
Harpers Weekly June 28, 1884
DePauw Alumnus March , 1956
Daily Christian Advocate, Gen. Conf. 1884 1 paragraph
The Christian Student- "The Early College President" with material and picture of Simpson August 1931
Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Quarterly -
"The Medical Training of Matthew Simpson, 1830-1833."
Reprint Oct. 1952.

Matthew Simpson
 D.C.#71
 Page 2

- Folder 10 Miscellaneous.
- 2 postcards (picture) of Cadiz, Ohio (Simpson's birthplace)
 - Photo of a bronze plaque erected by the Northeast Ohio Methodist Conference Historical Society, May 4, 1965 in memory of Bishop Matthew Simpson
 - Program "Second Annual Home Coming Dickerson Church June 19, 1938- Unveiling Memorial to the Memory of Bishop Matthew Simpson"
 - Program - May 1, 1934 "A Service honoring the Founders and Benefactors of DePauw University"
 - Letter from Library of Congress and an order form for a photostat copy of "Manuscript Life of Bishop Roberts"
 - Letters to Sara Elizabeth Simpson from George Bromley Oxnam, Dec. 6, 1933, May 2, 1934.
 - Letter to G. Bromley Oxnam from S.E. Simpson May 19, 1934
 - Letter to Dr. William E. Kerstetter, Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa from Worth M. Tippy, Archivist, DePauw Univeristy, April 7, 1954.
 - Letter to Dr. F. I. Moats, Indianola, Iowa from Oliver H. Bimson, Simpson College, July 14, 1954 and Moats' reply on the bottom of the page.
 - Letter to Dean Bimson, Simpson College from John L. Hillman, July 28, 1954
 - Letter to Dr. Worth M. Tippy, DePauw Archives, from Oliver H. Bimson, Vice-President and Dean of Simpson College. July 31, 1954
 - Dr. Tippy's notes on Simpson - 2 cards 4x6 and one sheet of note paper from Spring Mill Inn, Spring Mill State Park, Mitchell, Indiana. Undated.
- Folder 11 Elder's Certificate signed by Matthew Simpson, Sept. 24, 1871, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Matthew Simpson
Page 3

SEE ALSO:

- LETTERS:** Letter concerning Simpson in Florence Ditto folder in Alumni file, May 2, 1954.
- Simpson letter to Rev. J. A. Brouse, June 1841, in Vol. 1 of two volume scrapbook in vault.
- Letter regarding Simpson Chair in the Henry B. Longden folder in Oxnam files for 1935/36.
- Index to Simpson letters (1841-1882) in card catalog
- ARTICLES:** Simpson's call to preach, from Yale lectures.
Western Christian Advocate, Jan. 1, 1879. p. 1
- Bishop Simpson. National Magazine 7:289-92. Oct. 1885
- Bishop Simpson. by H.B. Ridgaway
Methodist Review 45:9-29. 1885
- Bishop Simpson as a Politician. (Southern View)
Methodist Review (South) Oct. 1890; Jan. 1891, p.395;
July 1891, p. 395
- A Great Modern Preacher. Andover Review 2:186-93. 1884
- Northwest Christian Advocate, Jan. 5, 1898, p.6, v.46,no.1
- Picture on front:- Bishop Hughes and Simpson's daughters:
Miss Ida Simpson, Miss Elizabeth Simpson and Mrs.
C. W. Buoy. Zion's Herald, May 21, 1924
- Bishop Matthew Simpson, the man who inspired the
Emancipation Proclamation. by C.T.Wilson
Current History, 31:99-106. 1929
- "Lincoln was no Ordinary Man", from the funeral oration
delivered at the grave of Abraham Lincoln, Spring-
field, Illinois. Times Herald 118:123-4,
February 7, 1940. A part of the oration may be
found in Crooks "Life of Bishop Simpson", p. 395.

Matthew Simpson
D.C.#71
Page 4

OTHER ITEMS: Picture of Matthew Lee Simpson and Sarah Simpson,
father and mother of Bishop Simpson in the
Hammond folder, alumni file.

Matthew Simpson - picture opposite page xxi, and
biographical sketch xxi-xxii DePauw University
Alumnal Register, Quinquennial, 1900.

References to Matthew Simpson in letter of E.L. Eaton
in Oxnam file 1930/31, "E" Miscellaneous Folder

Microfilm #F2. Letters (5) from Matthew Simpson to
Julius A. Skilton 1872-1874; letters (8) from
Mrs. Simpson to Mrs. Skilton, 1874-1875. Julius
A. Skilton was a physician, journalist, diplomat,
and business man.)

Funeral address delivered at the burial of President
Abraham Lincoln, at Springfield, Illinois, May 4,
1865 (printed) see:- G. Bromley Oxnam file

Diploma, handwritten by "M. Simpson, President", 1843,
of Indiana Asbury University.

MAUSOLEUM - Matthew Simpson

West Laurel Hill, Philadelphia

Bishop Matthew Simpson (first president of Indiana Asbury University)

Ellen H. Simpson, wife of Bishop Matthew Simpson, d. Dec. 19, 1897

Anna Simpson Weaver (first wife of Col. J. R. Weaver), d. Oct. 4, 1895

Ella Lathers Simpson, d. Dec. 1914

Ella Simpson Buoy, wife of C. W. Buoy, d. July 31, 1927

Charles Wesley Buoy, D.D., d. Nov. 1, 1897

Ida Simpson, d. Oct. 29, 1933

Sarah Elizabeth Simpson, d. Feb. 29, 1936

Matthew Verner Simpson, d. Sept. 30, 1923
"A sweet Singer in Israel"

James Verner Simpson, 4 years, 7 months

Charles Henry Simpson, aged 27 years

"Early crowned"

Pictures taken and inscriptions recorded by George B. Manhart, July 1958

•Pictures in picture file.

Donor
George B Manhart
Feb 13, 1967

The Man and the Mountain
by Sumner L. Martin

When the sun sets behind the Rocky Mountains there is silhouetted against the sky the majestic mountain named to honor a great man. As the mountain dominates the skyline so did the life of John Evans dominate the life of his day. When Abraham Lincoln was five years old John Evans was born in the Buckeye State of Quaker parentage, near Waynesville, Ohio, on March 9th. His versatile personality and many talents made him a leader in the field of medicine for he was a physician. He was a promoter of education - he founded Northwestern University and the University of Denver. He was an abolitionist. He was an empire builder having built the Denver and Pacific railroads, the South Park and Denver, Texas and Gulf railroads, later a part of the Burlington system.

After his long life of 83 years those who knew him and those who now know the facts of his life see in him a towering personality. The Colorado Legislature named the noble peak, Mt. Evans, which is a part of a National Park in his honor.

As a young physician, Dr. Evans started westward looking for a place to practice medicine. He first went to the State of Illinois but finally returned to Indiana and established his office at Attica. He carried with him the staunch piety of his Quaker ancestors.

About 1839 Matthew Simpson, the first President of DePauw University, then known as Asbury Academy came to Attica to make an address on "Christian Education. It was so able an address that John Evans was converted to Methodism. He and his family and many of his Quaker friends went into the Methodist Church, which caused quite a division in the community. He and Matthew Simpson became life-long friends and worked together in the field of education, the abolition of slavery and in building institutions for the insane.

Dr. Evans moved to Indianapolis in the 1840s and united with the Roberts Chapel Methodist Church, now known as Roberts Park. It then stood on the corner of Pennsylvania and Market Streets. He was a leader in Masonry. After joining Roberts Chapel he helped organize Marion Lodge #35. He joined the Attica Lodge in 1844, and was the first Worshipful Master of Marion Lodge in 1847.

Dr. Evans interviewed the Governor of Indiana trying to get him to relieve the deplorable conditions of the insane. His plea was ignored. He secured the aid of Matthew Simpson and with their political influence Governor Whitcomb was elected Governor of Indiana. Governor Whitcomb immediately started plans to build the Central Institution for the Insane. When it was completed he appointed Dr. Evans as Superintendent.

In 1848 Dr. Evans felt that his work in Indianapolis was completed and he moved to Chicago where he helped establish the Mercy Hospital. He was the inventor of many surgical instruments. He was the first to establish the theory that cholera was contagious.

He was not only an outstanding physician but he was a successful business man. He built the Evans Block on Clark Street, Chicago. Inspired by Dr. Simpson he felt the supreme achievement would be to establish Christian Universities where Christian education would be dispensed, "Without money and without price". He was the founder of the Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois was named in his honor. In 1850 a resolution was passed at a meeting in Chicago to establish a college governed and controlled by the Methodist Episcopal Church. A charter was drafted and signed by the Methodist Episcopal Church. The State Legislature of Illinois granted a charter the following winter.

There was a provision in the charter prohibiting the manufacture or sale of fermented liquors within four miles of the university. This is believed to be the first prohibition law enacted in America.

Dr. Evans bought 379 acres of land on which the city of Evanston and the university stands. The college was opened for instruction Nov. 5, 1855. He gave \$181,000 during his lifetime.

Dr. Evans also took a leading part in establishing public schools in Chicago. He was elected an Alderman and acted as Chairman of the Committee on Schools.

He took an active part in forming an antislavery party as early as 1856. When Lincoln was nominated he and Matthew Simpson, then Bishop, immediately joined forces to promote Lincoln's candidacy for President. Indiana was the only state that cast every vote in the convention that nominated Lincoln. They voted first and last for Lincoln.

Abraham Lincoln felt that Matthew Simpson and John Evans were responsible for his election. Simpson became his personal councilor throughout his presidency and he appointed John Evans Governor of the Territory of Colorado. Evans had a stormy, troublesome time both with the whites and the Indians, but he steered the territory through the troubled period and finally prepared the way for Colorado to become a state.

While Governor of Colorado, Dr. Evans established the University of Denver and helped to build Methodist churches. He presented \$100 to each church built in Colorado. As a member to the general conference in 1868 he became the champion of lay representation in the conference. This was an epochal event in Methodism.

The man and the mountain have many similarities. The mountain stands a huge pinnacle, magnificent and glorious, but it is only a mountain. John Evans left in the world an influence greater than the glory of a mountain. He was a physician, educator, financier, empire builder, philanthropist, founder of hospitals, churches, universities, and was an executive and idealist. He was a Christian gentleman, a man of God. Governor Evans left at his death a fame resting upon a firm foundation in four states but radiating to every part of the entire United States. His idealism was like the lofty peak of Mt. Evans. His strength of character was like that massive hulk that stands out against the western sky. He had an inner strength with a spiritual calm amid the storms of life. He was a leader of men but was led and dominated by the spirit of Christ. The warm glow of his earnest Christian faith was his birthright and inheritance.

At a recent session of the Colorado ^{legislature} a resolution was passed nominating John Evans and William Palmer as the two most outstanding citizens in the founding of Colorado. Their statues are to be placed in the Hall of Fame in Washington, D.C. Such is the story of the man and the mountain.

Bishop Simpson a Great Churchman.

To the Star: I read in *The Star* a few days ago of the finding in Philadelphia of the trunk of Bishop Matthew Simpson, and in the trunk letters from President Lincoln, General Grant and other distinguished men of their period. Bishop Simpson had family connections most remarkable and most interesting. He was perhaps the most intellectual and popular preacher that the great Methodist church has given to mankind. Lincoln said that Simpson was the most powerful orator he ever listened to, and the bishop preached at Mr. Lincoln's funeral when he was buried at Springfield.

Bishop Simpson, on account of his intellect and oratory, was almost canonized during his several trips to the Old World, and was in as great demand there as he was in the United States. He never attended an international religious conference but he was either asked to preside or deliver the opening address. The world has known few such men as Simpson, in or out of the pulpit. He would have been a leader in any cause which he might have espoused.

Bishop Simpson was a native of Ohio, and the family connections I refer to are that he was a cousin of General Grant, Jefferson Davis and

Senator Theodore E. Burton of Ohio, who died only recently. General Grant's mother was a Simpson, and through her these two most unusual men were cousins, and they were also second cousins to Jefferson Davis. Senator Burton was a cousin to all of them and was president of the Grant Society of the United States. How these names have crossed and recrossed the pages of American history the past seventy years!

Simpson, the greatest man his church has produced; General Grant, who saved the Union when all his predecessors had failed; Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, who never wavered in his faithfulness to the Old South; Senator Burton, regarded as the most scholarly man in the senate since Charles Sumner; all four most extraordinary men, belonging to and coming from one common family. Could such a thing be possible, except in a great democracy like ours?

E. MONT RELY.