

forest to Ritchie County, where he had friends, remaining there all the next Conference year, and then was appointed to West Union, spending a year there, and thence going to Middlebourne. His intense loyalty to the Union brought on the danger he encountered the first year of the war, and he was not altogether free from peril while the conflict lasted.

Leaving Middlebourne, our subject was assigned to Moundsville, where he remained three years. After this he was assigned as follows: Tridolphin Station, two years; North Street Station, Wheeling, three years; Zane Street, Wheeling, three years; and Cameron, one year. He then was made Presiding Elder of Buchanan District, and was reappointed four times, after which he was pastor of Clupline Street, Wheeling, two years. Following this he went to Morgantown, in order to secure school privileges for his children, remaining two years; was in Parkersburg, two years; and was then transferred to Grinnell, Iowa. In the year 1880 our subject was a delegate from West Virginia to the General Conference, which met at Cincinnati, and was Chairman of his delegation. Some of the very best appointments in the Conference were assigned to him, and through his untiring efforts a number of new churches were established. Mr. Hughes was appointed Presiding Elder of the Oskaloosa District in September, 1890, and has been reappointed ever since. The District embraces Poweshiek, Jasper and Mahaska Counties, with portions of Marion and Keokuk Counties, within which are twenty-three charges.

Our subject has lectured upon Personal Reminiscences of the War to audiences in West Virginia and Iowa, and lectured under the auspices of Bluff Park Association for two years. Mr. Hughes was married in Glennville, W. Va., March 26, 1861, to Miss Louisa, daughter of Mathew Holt, a large merchant of Weston, W. Va. By this union there have been seven children, six of whom grew to maturity, namely: Rev. Mathew S., educated in West Virginia University, for three years a member of Iowa M. E. Conference, and now Pastor of Chestnut Street Church, Portland, Me., one of the finest appointments in that State; William F., educated at West Virginia University, married, and living at

Stockton, Cal., a lumber merchant; Rev. Edwin H., A. B. A. M., a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University and of the Boston School of Theology, who was transferred in April, 1892, from Iowa to the New England Conference and is stationed at Newton Center, a Boston suburb; Effa B., educated in Ohio Wesleyan University, Nellie and Roy, the last three being at home. Our subject had a thrilling war experience, the publication of which would make a most interesting volume. He was a Republican until the year 1890, but is now a strong advocate of Prohibition, and has been President of the County Temperance Association and a delegate to the State Temperance Alliance. Mr. Hughes has a handsome residence on East Street, in Grinnell, and also has a residence in Garrett County, Md., near Deer Park, he being interested in the Mountain Lake Park Association, of which he is an originator.

of Robert Hughes, both natives of Virginia. The latter became a pioneer farmer in the Kanawha Valley, and achieved quite a fame as a fighter of Indians, having had several hand-to-hand encounters with them. He courageously explored the unknown and unsettled West, finally settling near Gauley Bridge, Va. (now W. Va.), clearing and farming a large tract, upon which he spent the remainder of his days, passing away at the age of eighty-six years.

The great-grandfather of our subject came from Scotland, where his family was an old and respected one. The father of our subject was a successful and highly respected farmer, who lived near Charleston, and died there in March, 1891, aged eighty-seven years. The mother of our subject, Phoebe (Jones) Hughes, was born in Nicholas County, W. Va., at Summersville, a daughter of a farmer who was drowned in the river. Our subject's mother died in 1877, at the age of seventy-five years, having been the mother of six children, four of them living. Sarah, Mrs. Odell, is living near Charleston; Robert J., a soldier in the Ninth West Virginia Regiment throughout the war, is living near the old home; Rev. Francis F. was a minister of the West Virginia Conference for fourteen years prior to his death; James is living near the old home; and Samuel died at the age of ten.

Our subject remained on the farm until he was fifteen, attending the common schools of his district, and an excellent private school, the teacher of which was Prof. Allen B. Smith. Mr. Hughes was licensed to preach at the early age of eighteen, and joined the West Virginia Conference at the age of twenty-one, remaining in active connection with that body continuously until 1885. His first appointment was on Calhoun Circuit, in the county of that name, where he spent a year in building up the churches; the next year he was at Harrisville, passing from that circuit to the Glenville Circuit, and remaining on the latter two years. He was compelled to flee from Spencer Circuit, to which he was assigned in 1861, as a detachment of Gov. Wise's command came over and destroyed his parsonage, doing much other damage beside. At imminent peril he made his way through the heavy

REV. THOMAS B. HUGHES, the subject of our sketch, is a venerated minister of the Methodist Church, whom to know is to love for his gentle, benevolent heart, that is ever touched with pity for the sorrowing and forgiveness for the erring. The years of his earthly life have been consecrated to his fellow-men, the needs of whose natures he has sought to supply with water from the Divine Fountain. Earth has been better for his presence, and the memory of his life will remain long after he has put on immortality as encouragement to the faltering, a hope for the weary, and an inspiration to all striving after better things. Two sons of this gentle, God-fearing man have, walking in his footsteps, dedicated themselves to the work of the Master, and the zeal of their work, with the nobility of their character, gives earnest of still greater results in the future of their days.

Mr. Hughes is Presiding Elder of the Oskaloosa District of the Iowa Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a quasi-episcopal office, the duties of which he discharges with a justice that bears the impress of gentle mercy. Our subject was born near Charleston, then in Virginia, but now the capital of West Virginia, January 20, 1838, being the son of Francis T. Hughes, and the grandson