

## BISHOP HAVEN.

The Rev. Gilbert Haven, one of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died at his home, in Malden, Massachusetts, on Saturday, January 3. He contracted malarial disease on the west coast of Africa several years ago, and never recovered from its effects. Bishop Haven was a native of Boston, and was born September 19, 1821. He entered the Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut in 1846. After graduating, he was for several years Principal of Amenia Seminary, in that State. In 1851 he joined the New England Methodist Conference, and occupied for a series of years some of its most important pulpits. Being an ardent abolitionist, he was aflame with the fire of patriotism when the war broke out in 1861, offered himself as chaplain of the Eighth Massachusetts Regiment, and was appointed to the position. He saw much service in Virginia, where the regiment was principally engaged. From 1865 to 1867 he had the supervision of the freedmen in Mississippi. His conception of the future destiny of the Southern negroes was of the most sanguine character. He proclaimed the certainty of their rise to the highest civilization with the fervor of a prophet, and identified himself with them, as they struggled upward, in every possible way.

Being well known as a brilliant writer, Mr. Haven came by common consent to the editorship of *Zion's Herald*, in 1867, as the successor to his cousin, Dr. E. O. Haven, now President of Syracuse University. This paper is the oldest in the Methodist Episcopal Church, has had among its editors the Rev. Dr. Abel Stevens, the well-known historian, and has always been conducted with unusual ability. Mr. Haven signalized his editorial term by his ardent advocacy of lay delegation in the Church, and his views in relation to the treatment of our Southern problem. If his opinions were considered by some to be extreme, they were known to be sincere, and were always defended with unflinching vivacity and good humor. An optimist by temperament, Mr. Haven never saw the impracticable—did not, indeed, know the meaning of the word; his visions of the future were smiling and sunny, and of their realization he never had a doubt. He was an advanced thinker, but his thinking was usually in the line of right progress. The difference between him and more practical men was that he did not conceive the right to be at any moment impossible of attainment.

While editor, Mr. Haven had a large share in



THE LATE REV. GILBERT HAVEN, METHODIST EPISCOPAL BISHOP.

the founding of Boston University. This institution is now organized, and though not in the full enjoyment of its endowment, is doing successful work. In 1872 he was elected by the General Conference (which sat that year in Brooklyn) one of the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His election was due largely to his personal popularity in New England. His genial temper, his good-fellowship, had made for him troops of friends. He went everywhere by the name of "Gil" Haven, and even after his election to the episcopal office this *prænomen* still clung to him. The high dignity of his position made no change in his outer characteristics. He was still the same impressive person. To official reserve he made no pretensions, but proved himself withal a capable and indefatigable administrator. Atlanta was assigned to him as his official home. All through the South he sought to awaken in the freedmen a sense of their manhood, and won their confidence and love to an unprecedented degree.

In the distribution of episcopal work a few years ago, the task was assigned Bishop Haven of visiting the Methodist missions in Liberia, on the west coast of Africa. It was a perilous venture, for the coast is extremely unhealthy. He spent several weeks in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, and on the shores of St. Paul River, and came back apparently well, but ever since his body has been held fast in the deadly grip of the African fever. At times better, and at other times worse, his condition was a cause of serious alarm to his friends. After making a brave fight for life he succumbed at last.

Bishop Haven was a constant writer for the press. In 1864 he published the *Pilgrim's Wallet*, a book of European travel; in 1868, *National Sermons*; in 1873, *Our Nearest Neighbor*, a volume descriptive of Mexico. He was also author of a *Life of Father Taylor*, the seamen's preacher, of Boston, and of numerous articles in the *Methodist* and other reviews.

HEALTH.—It is the health rather than the strength that is the great requirement of modern men at modern occupations. It is not the power to travel great distances, carry great burdens, lift great weights, or overcome great material obstructions; it is simply that condition of body and that amount of vital capacity which shall enable each man, in his place, to pursue his calling and work on in his working life with the greatest amount of comfort to himself and usefulness to his fellow-men.



THE ZULU WAR.—OFFICERS RETURNING FROM THE FRONT.