

## HAZELET METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

The first Methodist Protestant Church organized in the county is known as the Hazelet M. P. Church. It is located about midway between Cherry Tree and Gettysburg, on the old State road. It was organized in 1882, in the house of Rev. Samuel Hazelet, a local preacher, who had moved in from Clearfield county, Pa. The society was organized either by Rev. Zack. Ragan, D. D., then President of Pittsburgh Conference, or by Rev. Robert Simonton, who was pastor of a frontier work extending from Phillipsburg, Clearfield county, to the vicinity of Blairsville, Indiana county. The organization was composed of Rev. Samuel Hazelet, his wife Sarah and daughters Anna E. and Maria; Rev. Samuel Rank, a local preacher, and his wife Margaret A., John Bartlebaugh and his wife, Mrs. Mary King and her daughter Nancy, and Miss Mary Notley. Others united soon after.

In 1854, a good frame church was built, 30x40 feet, one-story, which is still in a good state of preservation (1879). The names of the pastors who served them are: Robert Simonton, I. Huntsman, T. J. Addis, William McCullough, C. C. Chapman, C. A. Compton, Henry Palmer, J. L. Turner, M. Stewart, D. Dershing, John I. Stillions, Henry Lucas, N. Burgess, Alex Marple, Anson Kingsley, W. H. Phipps, William M. Smith, J. B. Lucas, Alex Patton, Michael Lee, D. H. Davis, William Turner, and S. F. Crowther, who served seven consecutive years, from September, 1872, to 1879.

This church has been a spiritual birth-place and home of a goodly number of persons, but her ranks have been reduced frequently during the last twenty years, by deaths, removals, and the organizing of several other churches in neighboring communities. The present membership[ is about fifty. Nearly all of the original members have gone to rest. Rev. S. Hazelet and wife, both sleep in the graveyard by the church. One son has been in the ministry for anumber of years. The Sabbath School numbers from seventy-five to one hundred, and is doing a good work. W. T. Hazelet, James W. Hazelet, John Hazelet, P. W. Wassam, R. W. and M. W. Smith are among the office bearers and efficient workers at this time. Rev. J. A. Gehrett succeeds Rev. Crowther as pastor.