

Wesley Historical Society

Proceedings

An abstract of contents

In each Part there is a Notes and Queries section

Volume 55

Editor E. Alan Rose

Part 1 February 2005

The Edinburgh Wesley Portraits

Rev Donald H Ryan, Former Chair North Wales Methodist District, Registrar Wesley Historical Society

The background of the eminent Edinburgh artist, John Kay, and his drawings of Methodists visiting the city is reviewed. The subjects included Rev John Wesley, Rev Joseph Cole, Dr James Hamilton and The Right Hon. Selina Countess Dowager of Huntingdon.

The First Bible Christian Hymn Book

Roger F.S. Thorne J.P. Methodist Local Preacher

The only known copy of the first 'Bible Christian Hymn Book' 1820 is described and the errors of earlier writers on the subject are updated and corrected.

John Walsh, Mary Leadbetter and 'A Short Account of Miss Mary Gilbert'

Paul Cheshire

The article shows the links between Mary Gilbert who wrote her journal until she died aged 17, her father Nathaniel Gilbert, the founder of Methodism in the West Indies, John Wesley, Mary Leadbetter, the family governess and Lieutenant John Walsh the naval officer who saved the family and others from being ship wrecked.

Book Reviews by

John A Vickers *Brother Charles* by Barrie W Tabraham (Epworth Press, 2003) pp. xl, 146 £14.99

Glyn Tegai Hughes *Calendar of the Trevecka Letters* by Boyd Stanley Schlenther and Eryn Mant White (The National Library of Wales, 2003) pp.xll, 528. £29.95

Graham Slater *Dr Taylor of Norwich: John Wesley's Arch-heretic* by G Thackrey Eddy (Epworth Press, 2003, pp 265 ^ £16.99

John A Vickers Itinerant Temples: Tent Methodism 1814-1832, by John K Lander (Paternoster Press, 2003) pp.xix, 268 £19.99

D Colin Dews Dr Franz Hildebrant: Mr Valiant-for-Truth, by Amos Creswell & Max Tow (Gracewing, Leominster, 2000) pp. vii (1) 254 pp 8 plates £12.99

Part 2 May 2005

The Voluntary Ministry of the Independent Methodists

John Dolan Independent Methodist Minister and Editor for the Independent Methodist Connexion

Historically, Independent Methodism stood for two major principles- the autonomy of the local church and the belief that local church ministry should be voluntary and unpaid. This article focuses on the pattern of ministry which developed in the denomination over 200 years.

Source for the history of British and Irish Methodism and Genealogy: Some Printed Donation Lists

John H Lenton, Wesley Historical Society Librarian

The article highlights the under used source of 19th century Methodist history. The printed lists of donations given by Methodist people to Methodist causes give us both family names and an view of the relative wealth of a local chapel, circuits and neighbourhoods.

The Whitehead Controversy: A Provincial View

Norma Virgoe Wesley Historical Society Publications Manager

Dr John Whitehead was appointed to write the 'official' Biography of John Wesley. A dispute arose over his remuneration, copyright and the ownership of the Wesley papers which caused a disagreement between Whitehead, Dr Thomas Coke and Henry Moore. Two 1792 manuscript letters throw new light on the dispute.

Indexing Wesley's Journal and Diaries

Dr John A Vickers – Editor 'The Dictionary of Methodism in Britain and Ireland'

A record of the complexity of the indexing of the new edition of John Wesley's Journal and Diaries and the final and valuable and correct version. This general index is printed along with an Index of Works Cited and an Index of Scriptural References in volume 7.

Nineteenth-century Methodist hymn books- three differing streams.

Rev Colin C. Short, Methodist Minister Mounts Bay Circuit, Cornwall

The three main streams of Methodist hymn-book tradition are identified and their similarities and differences in content and style are highlighted.

Bibliography of Methodist Historical Literature – Thirty-First Edition 2004

Dr Clive D. Field Research Fellow, Birmingham University

A detailed and carefully researched list of all known publications of Methodist Historical Literature published in 2004

Book Reviews by

D. Colin Dews *Harry Heap's joyful News: the inspirational life of William Harry Heap, Methodist minister and communicator*, by David Lazell (The Author, East Leake, 2005) pp 63 (2) £5

Colin C. Short *Billy Bray in his own words*, by Chris Wright, (Godalming: Highland Books 2005) pp. 248., maps., illus £8.99

Roger Thorne *More than a Methodist. The Life and Ministry of Donald English. The Authorised Biography*, by B Hoare, and I. Randall (Paternoster Press, 2003) pp. xviii, 230, £11.99

Part 3 October 2005

Repression and Resistance: Wesleyan Female Public Ministry in the generation after 1791

Dr Gareth Lloyd Methodist Church Archivist

Starting with the 1803 Wesleyan Conference question, 'Should women be permitted to preach among us?' Women's struggle to be accepted as preachers is examined and the opposition, prejudice and rules they had to overcome is highlighted

Upon this Rock

Rev Arthur Mignot Methodist Minister Alderney

An outline of the life and faith and ministry of the Rev Philippe Tourgis of the Channel Islands. Following his ordination at the Wesleyan Conference in 1822 he was sent as a missionary to France. The introduction and growth of Methodism in the Channel Islands is outlined.

More Information On Methodist Donation Lists

John H Lenton, Wesley Historical Society Librarian

A updating of the first article in volume 55 part 2 pp.43 with new information.

Son to Sophia

Dr John A Vickers – Editor ‘The Dictionary of Methodism in Britain and Ireland’

Notes on the son of Sophy Hopkey who married John Wesley’s rival, Mr Williamson. Their son Joseph Taylor Williamson was brought up in England and became an Anglican priest with a living at St Dunstan’s in the West, close to Temple Bar, London.

Book Reviews by

C. Colin Dews *Cardiff's Temples of Faith*, by John B Hilling, Mary Traynor, (Cardiff Civic Society, 2000) pp.80 £8.50

John H Newton *The Works of John Wesley: Vols 18-24, Journals and Diaries 1735-1791*, ed. By W Reginald Ward and Richard P Heitzenrater (Nashville Abingdon Press, 1988-2003) 7 vol £31.99 each

John H Lenton *Church and Chapel in Early Victorian Shropshire: Returns from the 1851 Census of Religious Worship* ed: Clive D. Field (Shropshire Record Series Vol. 8 2004) pp.lxiii + 171. £15

John Munsey Turner *Philosophy, Dissent and Nonconformity 1689-1920*, by Alan P F Sell. (Cambridge James Clark and Co. 2004) pp. 296. £50

Henry D Rack *Forgotten Heroes of Revival, Great men of the 18th century evangelical awakening*, by Tim Shenton.(Leominster, Day One Publications2004) pp. 197 £7.99

John A Vickers *O for a thousand tongues: the 1933 Methodist Hymn Book in context*, by Andrew Pratt. Epworth Press 2004) pp. xii, 300. £19.99

Rod Evans *The Exotic Plant*, by Geoffrey and Margaret Stead (Epworth Press 2003) pp. xviii, 442 £25

John H Lenton *Basic facts about Methodist Records for Family Historians*, by Richard Radcliffe (Federation of Family History Societies 2005) pp. 16 £2

Basic facts about the Wesleyan Methodist Historic Roll, by Richard Radcliffe (Federation of Family History Societies 2005) pp. 16 £2

Peter Forsaith *Reformation: Europe’s House Divided 1190-1700*, by Diarmaid MacCulloch (Penguin Books 2004, pp. 864 £9.99

D Colin Dews *Black Country Chapels*, by Ned Williams (Stroud, Sutton publishing, 2004) pp. 144 £12.99

Robert Key, coal heaver and evangelist. More people called Methodists no.7, by Norma Virgoe (WHS Publications) pp.32 £2.50

Part 4 February 2006

Victorian Values and Industrial Connexions

Professor Clyde Binfield, University of Sheffield

Methodist and Free Church networks both local and national are examined along with a five-fold leadership mix. The article basis much of its research on the people and city of Sheffield.

Book Reviews by

Colin C. Short *A Corner for the Preacher*, by Sherrell Branton Leetooze (Bowmanville, Ontario: Lynn Michael Associates, 2005) pp. iv, 358 Canadian\$25

Bible-Christian Chapels of the Canadian Conference, by Sherrell Branton Leetooze (Bowmanville, Ontario: Lynn Michael John Associates, 2005) pp. vii, 281 Canadian\$25

The Damascus Road, by Sherrell Branton Leetooze (Bowmanville, Ontario: Lynn Michael John Associates, 2005) pp. vii, 281 Canadian\$25

Edward Royle *Wesleyan Methodism*, by John Munsey Turner, (Epworth Press, 2005) pp. 104 £14.99

D Colin Dews *Memoirs Methodist & Ecumenical: A Raymond George*: Ed. Geoffrey Wainwright (Buxton, Church in the Market Place Publications. 2003) pp.viii, 295 £9.99

Martin Wellings *Parliament and Dissent*, Ed Stephen Taylor and David L Wykes (Edinburgh University Press for the Parliament History Yearbook Trust 2005) pp. viii, 156 £16.95

J Gordon Terry *The Independent Methodists – a History*, by John Dolan (James Clarke & Co Cambridge 2005) pp. 320 £25

Part 5 May 2006

John Lewis, Pioneer of Fair Isle Methodism

Rev Harold R Bowes, Methodist Minister served in the Shetland Isles 1956-60

John Lewis, Wesleyan Minister and a former Missionary to Nova Scotia was appointed to the Shetland Mission in 1823. He became the pioneer who opened up the Methodist work on the Fair Isle.

Methodist involvement in the British annexation of Fiji, 1874

Rev John H Darch, Lecturer in History and Liturgy, St John's College Bramcote, Nottingham,

The article outlines the influence of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionaries who were the first to preach the Christian Gospel in the Fiji in 1835. After the troubles caused by the arrival of white settlers the influence of the Missionaries' campaign to have the islands annexed by Britain is examined.

An Acquisition and a Rediscovery

Rev Dr Henry Rack – Methodist Historian

The John Rylands Library acquisition of a late eighteenth-century version of the Inghamite history is reviewed along with other Benjamin Ingham (1712-72) material. The contents of the rediscovered missing manuscript 'Warburton Meetings in 1754' are discussed.

A 'Distressing Poisoning Case' and its aftermath

Dr John A Vickers – Editor 'The Dictionary of Methodism in Britain and Ireland'

New material which recently surfaced on the involvement of the Rev George Dyson in the case of Adelaide Bartlett and his subsequent career in America.

Bibliography of Methodist Historical Literature – Thirty-Second Edition 2005

Dr Clive D. Field Research Fellow, Birmingham University

A detailed and carefully researched list of all known publications of Methodist Historical Literature published in 2005

Book Reviews by

John Munsey Turner *John Wesley – Tercentenary Essays*, Ed Jeremy Gregory (Bulletin of the John Rylands Library of Manchester Vol 85 No 2 & 3 2003) £20

Margaret Batty *Two Calves in the House, being the Shetland Journal of the Reverend John Lewis 1823-1825* Ed Harold R. Bowes (Shetland Amenity Trust 2005) pp. xii, 152, illus £15

Roger Thorne *Berkshire Nonconformist Meeting House Registrations 1689-1852*, Ed Lisa Spurrier (Berkshire Record Office 2005) Pt 1 pp. lxi, 186, Part 2 pp. 260 £53.50

John H Lenton *Water From the Moors. The life and Works of Joseph Foord*, by Isabell Anne McLean The North York Moors National Park Authority 2005) PP.188, maps, illus, £17.95

John Munsey Turner 'A wormed heart and a disciplined mind perfectly joined' Sister Dorothy Hincksman Farrar (1899-1957) and the evolution of women's ministry in

Methodism, by John A Hargreaves (Church in the Market Place Publications, Buxton 2005), pp 41 £5

Part 6 October 2006

Primitive Methodism in Scotland

Dr Margaret Batty Editor of the Scottish Wesley Historical Society

The article shows the 'flavour' of Primitive Methodism in Scotland, from the energetic, earnest early days, through the developing aspiration towards weightiness and prestige in the community, to the weariness induced by creeping bureaucracy and the attitudes towards Methodist Union in 1932

John Russell's Mysterious Moon

Dr Antje Matthews

The article shows how John Russell RA (1745-1806) was the leading British painter of pastel portraits and fancy pictures. How his colourful and emotional likenesses were fashionable with the middle class and the royal family and his conversion to Methodism.

Book Reviews by

Henry D Rack *Methodism, Empire of the Spirit*, by David Hempton (Yale University Press 2005) pp.xiii, 278, illus, £19 95

Martin Wellings *Cliff: More than a College*, by G Howard Mellor (Cliff College Publishing, 2005) pp. xiii, 562 £19.95

Gilbert D Braithwaite *Saved to Serve: The Story of the Wesley Deaconess Order 1890-1978*, by E. Dorothy Graham (Epworth Press 2002) £19.95

D. Colin Dews *Thomas Thomas 1817-88, the first national architect of Wales*, by Stephen Hughes, reprinted from *Archaeological Cambrenis* 152 2003) pp69-166 £5