

Wesley Historical Society

PROCEEDINGS

An abstract of contents Volume 60

Editors Rev Dr David Ceri Jones

Deacon Dr Ronald Aitchison to Part 2

Rev Barry D. Lotz from Part 3.

Part 1 February 2015

Methodism and the Challenge of the First World War.

Michael Hughes.

In this annual lecture given to the Wesley Historical Society on 28th June 2014 Professor Hughes explores how the Christian response to any situation of conflict or war must necessarily be situated in a clear review of the specific circumstances involved. 'The 'messiness' of history nevertheless means that it is seldom easy to make definite judgements about the rights and wrongs involved in any particular case'. The outbreak of war in 1914 is examined and shows how it posed a particular challenge for Methodists in Great Britain and the struggled to carve out a position that would allow Methodist and Methodism to reconcile patriotism and the commitment to the injunction to 'love thy neighbour as thyself'.

Charles Crump.

Donald H. Ryan

In this brief biographical note Donald H. Ryan, writes about the Wolverhampton, Darlington Street Wesleyan Church, Sunday School Superintendent who was also the legislator and Senior Vice President of the Football Association.

'The Nineteenth-Century Whitefield': Charles Haddon Spurgeon and George Whitefield.

Peter J. Morden, Spurgeon's College, London

Peter J. Morden writes about Whitefield as Spurgeon's 'Model', the 'Differences between Spurgeon and Whitefield' and 'Spurgeon and his Protestant Heritage.

NOTES AND QUERIES

1602 [1604] How were the 1745 *Hymns on the Lord's Supper* used? Paul Ellingworth

NOTICES

The General Secretary of the Wesley Historical Society Report to the AGM - John A. Hargreaves

Book Reviews by

Chris Smith *The Letters of Dr. Thomas Coke* by John A. Vickers (Ed.) (Nashville, TN; Kingswood Press, 2013), pp. xx + 787. \$89.99. ISBN 978-1426757716.

Martin Wellings *True Christianity: The Doctrine of Dispensations in the Thought of John William Fletcher (1729-1785)* by J. Russell Frazier. (Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2014), xxii + 297 pp. \$35. pb. ISBN 978-1-62032-663-3.

Clive D. Field *Through Changing Scenes: Belfast Central Mission – The Story of the First 125 years, 1889-2014* by J. R. Wesley Weir. (Belfast: Belfast Central Mission, 2014), pp 66 + [2]. Paperback, no charge, but donations to the Mission appreciated

Edward Royle *Methodists and their Missionary Societies, 1900-1996* by John Pritchard (Ashgate Methodist Studies, Farnham, 2014). pp. xxxii + 333. ISBN 978-1-4724-0914-0 Hardback £75

Clive Field *Textual Warfare and the Making of Methodism* by Brett Chan McInelly (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014, pp. x + 245), ISBN 978-0-19-870894-0 Hardback £50

David Ceri Jones *George Whitefield: America's Spiritual Founding Father* by Thomas S. Kidd, (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2014). 325 pp., ISBN 978-0-300-18162-3 Hardback, £25

Part 2 May 2015

Charles Booth and the Primitive Methodists.

Jeremy Crump

Jeremy Crump examines Charles Booth's researchers notes and findings following their interviews with 1,800 religious leaders in the London County Council area between 1896 and 1900. Three of those interviewed were Primitive Methodists. Booth's team provides insights set against the public and connexional image of ministers in London at the time.

Lillie Edwards (1863-1937): A Female Methodist Superintendent Minister from 1894-1911.

C Paul Burnham and Colin Short

The authors examines Miss Edwards path to being called to be a Bible Christian minister, being accepted into Full Connexion, Being a 'Special Agent' and superintendent of 3 circuits.

The 'persuasive tongue' of the 'outspoken' Rev. Henry Booth Coventry'

Mel Johnson

Mel Johnson examines Henry Booth Coventry's United Methodist background and his involvement in the Labour Party.

NOTICES

Wesley Historical Society Annual Meeting and Lecture, Englesea Brook Museum 'Prims in Print: the changing character of Primitive Methodism as seen through its literature' – Rev Dr Stephen Hatcher

Book Reviews by

Clive D. Field *Holden's Ghosts: The Life and Times of Sir Isaac Holden – Inventor, Woolcomber, and Nonconformist Radical Liberal MP* ([Nottingham]: Leen Editions, 2015), pp 216. ISBN 978-0-9931612-1-6. Paperback. £10.

Ronnie Aitchison *A Heart Strangely Warmed: John and Charles Wesley and Their Writings* by Jonathan Dean (Ed.) (Canterbury Press: Norwich, 2014). pp xi + 279. ISBN 978-1848255654. Paperback £19.99

Barry Lotz *John Wesley in America: Restoring Primitive Christianity*. By Geordan Hammond. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), pp xv + 237. ISBN 978-0-19-870160-6. Hardcover £55.

Bibliography of Methodist Historical Literature – Forty-first Edition 2014

Dr Clive D. Field Research Fellow, Birmingham University

A detailed and carefully researched list of all known publications of Methodist Historical Literature published in 2014

Part 3 October 2015

Unity and Division: The Changing Theology and Friendship between George Whitefield and John Cennick.

Tom Schwanda

Tom Schwanda outlines the relationship and changing theology between Whitefield and Cennick. Schwanda examines the 'Early Signs of Unity and Controversy' with John Cennick, John Wesley, Count Zinzendorf and the 'Increased Tensions with the Moravians'.

The Prims in Print: The Changing Character of Primitive Methodism as seen through its Literature.

Stephen Hatcher

Stephen Hatcher in the Annual Lecture of the Wesley Historical Society in July 2015 gives an overview of the changing character of literature written by Primitive Methodist authors. He starts with 'The Pre-Bemersley Years: Annunciation' which looks at the literature including hymns pre 1821. Stephen then speaks of 'Bemersley, 1821-1842: Cradles in a Cow Shed'. The next time line is 'Sutton Street, Commercial Road East, 1843-95: Wise Men from the East End. This is followed by '48-50 Aldersgate Street, 1895-1910: Journey to Jerusalem' Holborn Hall, 1910-1932: The Triumphal Entry' concluding with 'Methodist Union, 1932 Onwards: Death and Resurrection.

A Shorthand State of John Gambold's 'Character' of John Wesley (1736)

Timothy Underhill

Timothy Underhill reminds the reader of John Gambold's account of 'The Character of Mr. John Wesley; in a Letter [...] to a Friend' which appeared in the Methodist Magazine in 1798. Timothy Underhill then examines Charles Wesley's version of the letter which he wrote in John Byrom's system of shorthand. This manuscript version, which is in the Methodist Archives at John Rylands Library, is examined in detail and ends with a table of word and phrase variants

NOTICES

The General Secretary's Report John A. Hargreaves

Book Reviews by

Clive D. Field, *The Dissenters, Volume III: The Crisis and Conscience of Nonconformity*, by Michael Robert Watts, with assistance of Chris Wrigley, (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2015), pp. xviii + 493. ISBN 978-0-19-822969-8. Hardcover £85.

Part 4 February 2016

Oxford's Free Churches and the Outbreak of the Great War.

Martin Wellings

Martin Wellings looks at the responses of the mainstream Oxford Free Churches – Baptists, Congregationalists and Methodists – to the outbreak of the Great War. He draws from the denominational records and the Oxford and District Free Church Council. He pays particular attention to the July Crisis of 1914 under the headings of 'Alleged militarisation', 'Attitudes to war and peace', 'Strained relations' between Britain and Germany and the Free Churches' 'Confidence in the Liberal government' and their response to the conflict.

'The Crab's Reformation' An unnoticed poem attributed to John Gambold (1711-71)

Timothy Underhill

Timothy Underhill introduces the poem with Charles Wesley's comments in 'Epistle to a Friend'. The poem, as far as the author knows, has not been printed before.

Methodist Ministry to Wartime Internees on the Isle of Man.

Tim Grass

Tim Grass explains the British governments 'snap decision' which led to 'The Introduction of internment', the classification of the risk of the internees and the setting up of camps in the Isle of Man. Tim Grass outlines the 'Local reaction' of the Manx Government, newspapers, businesses and individuals. The article tells of the pastoral care of the internees and as Henry Carter notes it was one of the 'finest pieces of modern evangelisation'. The article also looks at the response of the chapels to the internees.

NOTICES

European Methodist Historical Conference 9-12 September 2015 in Ruse, Bulgaria,

Book Reviews by

Henry Rack *The Fire Divine, An Introduction to the Evangelical Revival* by David Ceri Jones (Nottingham, Inter Varsity Press, 2015) pp 176. ISBN 978-1783592906. Paperback £9.99

Boyd Stanley Schlenther *Evangelism, Piety, and Politics. The Selected Writings of W. R. Ward*, edited by Andrew Chandler, Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate, 2014. pp 230. ISBN 978-1-4094-2554-0 Hardcover £65

John A. Hargreaves *The History of Lees Methodist Church*, by Maurice Baren, (Lees: Lees Methodist Church 2014). 64 pp. £7 plus £1.50 p&p

Clive D. Field *The Spirit of Dissent: A Commemoration of the Great Ejectment of 1662* Ed by Janet Wootton ([Winchester]: Institute for Theological Partnerships Publishing, 2015). pp. [6] + v + 210. ISBN 978-1-908532-04-6. Paperback £10.

Part 5 May 2016

The Making of an Evangelical Minister: The Early Years of Frederick William Bourne (1830-1905)

Maureen B. Burnham and C. Paul Burnham

In the article Maureen B. Burnham and C Paul Burnham tell of Frederick William Bourne's early life, background, conversion, his acceptance as a Bible Christian Minister, rising to become one of its senior officers and President.

Keet v. Smith – Owston Ferry cause celebre: Wesleyan Ministers' Right to be Called 'Reverend' Challenged

Donald H. Ryan

Donald H. Ryan having extensively researched both denominational and secular sources shows how a simple memorial inscription on a Wesleyan Ministers young daughters grave stone had ramification which went from a local denominational dispute up the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. He concludes with illustrations from his personal experience.

Batting for Christ or Agent of the Devil? The emergence of Methodist Cricket Clubs in Halifax and the Calder Valley, 1860 to c.1920

Dennis O'Keefe

Dennis O'Keefe examines the subject under the headings of 'Introduction and Obstacles to Chapel Cricket to c.1850', 'A Changing Climate and the Emergence of Methodist Cricket Clubs', 'Methodist Cricket and Secularisation' Dennis O'Keefe concludes with observations of Hugh McLeod and his own comments.

A Shorthand Record by Charles Wesley of the August 1756 Bristol Conference.

Timothy Underhill

Timothy Underhill brings to our awareness details of the proceedings of the Methodist preachers' Bristol Conference 26-28 August 1756 which was grappling with the lively subjects such as the risk of the 'gulf of separation'

NOTES AND QUERIES

1605 – Did Mary Bosanquet's Family Own Slaves. Robert Glen

NOTICES

Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History – 2015 Peter Forsaith

Wesley Historical Society Annual Meeting and Lecture, Saturday 25 June 2016 at Brunswick Methodist Church, Brunswick Place, Newcastle upon Tyne

Book Reviews by

George Bailey *Pursuing Social Holiness: The Band Meeting in Wesley's Thought and Popular Methodist Practice*. By Kevin M. Watson (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014). pp. 221. ISBN 978-0-19-933636-4. Paperback £22.99.

Bibliography of Methodist Historical Literature – Forty-second Edition 2015

Dr Clive D. Field Research Fellow, Birmingham University

A detailed and carefully researched list of all known publications of Methodist Historical Literature published in 2015