

**METHODIST DICTIONARY,
A BRIEF
WORK ON METHODIST
TERMINOLOGY**

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Methodist Dictionary, a Brief Work on Methodist Terminology by Joseph F. Anderson

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JOSEPH F. ANDERSON

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A BRIEF
WORK ON METHODIST
TERMINOLOGY**

METHODIST DICTIONARY

A brief work on
METHODIST TERMINOLOGY

Prepared in the interest of Ministers, Members,
and Friends of the

Methodist Episcopal Church

By

JOSEPH F. ANDERSON

Secretary of the Central Pennsylvania Conference



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TO MY BRETHREN OF THE
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

1871
2 June 1871 - 221

PREFACE

This small work on Methodist terminology has been prepared for the use of ministers, especially the younger of them, official members, probationers under instruction for full membership, Sunday school officers and teachers, Epworth League officers and members, newspaper reporters, and members and friends of the Church in general.

The aim has been to furnish in compact and convenient form, in alphabetical arrangement, information on the vital points of history, doctrine, law, and polity in general, of the denomination. In collecting and defining terms the design has been to cover the various subjects so related. The thought of the author, therefore, is that by a careful reading and study of this little volume a comprehensive knowledge of our great, though somewhat complex, denominational system may be easily and quickly acquired, while as a key to and digest of much of the Discipline it will possess increased value as a book of reference.

For some years the writer has had the opinion that our Church has need of a glossary or dictionary of ecclesiastical terms, and that such a work, carefully prepared, would be very useful to our ministry and membership. With that conviction its preparation was undertaken. If the work shall add value to the standard literature of the denomination, and prove serviceable to those for

whom intended, I shall be glad for the thought and labor expended in its production.

With the earnest wish that the student of the various articles contained in the pages which follow may be both pleased and profited, and that the book may receive an appreciative welcome, it is sent forward.

I here acknowledge with gratitude my indebtedness to the Rev. Milton K. Foster, D.D., of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and the Rev. C. Herbert Richardson, D.D., of Baltimore, Maryland, for services rendered in reviewing the manuscript.

JOSEPH F. ANDERSON.

Esopus, Pennsylvania, October, 1909.

METHODIST DICTIONARY

(Prepared with Special Reference to the Methodist
Episcopal Church)

Abandoned Church Property.—Property of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which by changing population, or for any other reason, has been allowed to go into disuse, is of this class. Regarding the disposition of such property the General Conference of 1876 enacted the following: "In all cases where church property is abandoned, or no longer used for the purpose originally designed, it shall be the duty of the trustees, if any remain, to sell such property and pay over the proceeds to the Annual Conference within whose bounds it is located; and where no such lawful trustees remain, it shall be the duty of said Annual Conference to secure the custody of such church property by such means as the laws of the State may afford, subject to be returned in the same manner and upon the same contingencies as named in ¶ 374" (Discipline, 1876, ¶ 381). Such funds are subject to a return to the society in case of reorganization, and the erection of a new church building within five years after such transfer of funds (Discipline, 1908, ¶ 334).

Abstinence, as enjoined by the Rules of the Church, is interpreted to mean refraining from the use of certain articles of diet, or moderation in their use, for physical and spiritual benefit. Total abstinence from the use of intoxicating beverages and narcotics is enjoined by the Book of Discipline (Discipline, 1908, Appendix, ¶ 48).