

**THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN
WARREN, R.I. : INCLUDING
NOTICES OF MANY CLERGYMEN AND
OTHERS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO
ITS PLANTING AND GROWTH**

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The Origin and Progress of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Warren, R.I. : Including Notices of Many Clergymen and Others Who Have Contributed to Its Planting and Growth by M. J. Talbot

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M. J. TALBOT

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BY
M. J. TALBOT, D. D.

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1876.

TO THE
OFFICERS AND MEMBERS
OF THE
Methodist Episcopal Church in Warren,
WITH WHOM
THE WRITER HAS PASSED AN AGREEABLE PASTORATE,
AND
FOR WHOSE EDIFICATION HE HAS EXERTED HIS
WELL-INTENDED EFFORTS,
THESE PAGES ARE
AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED.

PREFACE.

This does not claim to be a complete history of the Church at Warren, as the reader of these pages will readily perceive. What is here written has been obtained with an amount of labor and research which might have produced greater and more satisfactory results had the work been prosecuted some years earlier, when many actors in these scenes were living, who have now passed away. All available sources of information have been explored: attempts have been made to rescue facts of interest from the decaying memories of aged persons; public records have been searched, and the writer has been much indebted to published works, to which due acknowledgment is made in the appropriate places. Some pages of manuscript prepared by the Rev. J. H. James, and a manuscript sermon of the Rev. Sidney Dean have rendered valuable assistance in the work; and the author's thanks are due to the Hon. Henry H. Luther, Town Clerk of Warren, for his courtesy in affording access to the records of the town, and supplying valuable information. The special interest of the work is limited to a single locality,

while it is also an item in the history of a great connec-tional Church whose branches now extend to all parts of the world. Its local character permits much detail which would not be appropriate to a work of a more general char-acter. Such are the accounts of persons, places and buildings, which are minutely followed in order that those now and hereafter living in the town may not be destitute of this information. Quite probably defects in dates and in statements of supposed facts may be discovered as these sketches are read. The writer has endeavored to correct discrepancies in current traditions; and if he has fallen into errors, they may be corrected in case another edition should be called for.

WARREN, February, 1876.

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CHAPTER I.



THE "Great Awakening," which visited the Congregational Churches of New England in 1740 and the following years, will ever be memorable on account of the impulse then given to religious activity and the spirit of propagandism in the churches of that denomination. The labors of Jonathan Edwards in the promotion of spiritual piety have secured for him a fame as enduring as that derived from his great philosophical writings, and of far greater value, as his activity in that direction has conferred so much greater benefit on mankind. Of the eminent Calvinistic divines who assisted in the propagation of primitive experimental religion in the last century, George Whitefield was one of the chief; and his religious zeal and energy in evangelistic effort were the result of his association