

**WELSH CALVINISTIC
METHODISM: A HISTORICAL
SKETCH OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF WALES**

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Welsh Calvinistic Methodism: A Historical Sketch of the Presbyterian Church of Wales by
William Williams

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WILLIAM WILLIAMS

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A Historical Sketch

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WALES.

BY
THE REV. WILLIAM WILLIAMS,
SWANSEA.

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PREFACE.

Has the Principality of Wales been really benefited by the Methodist Reformation of the last century? This is a question which has, of late, been much canvassed, and to which some have given a negative answer. It has been the means of multiplying places of worship, and of enormously swelling Nonconformist congregations, but it has been asserted that it has caused little or no improvement in the morals of the people, and that they were as contented, peaceful, and pure, or very nearly so, before "all the sects" had swollen to their present proportions, and when they had scarcely any religious instruction, but such as was furnished by the "Clergy of their own Church," as their descendants are in the present generation. Statements to this effect are made by men of some weight, and repeated on their authority by more humble individuals. It is to meet such assertions that I have prefixed to the present edition of my historical sketch a chapter on the moral and religious state of the Principality during the last hundred years or so before the rise of Methodism. The authorities which I quote cannot be charged with partiality to Dissenters, for, with one or two exceptions, they were

Clergymen, and some of them very distinguished clergymen, of the Church of England.

I have made a few other additions, besides such changes as were necessary to give an accurate idea of the present state of the Church, the history of which I have endeavoured to trace.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

SWANSEA, *July 3rd, 1884.*

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