

# **THE POPULAR HISTORY OF METHODISM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649176700

The popular history of Methodism by John Telford

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JOHN TELFORD**

**THE POPULAR  
HISTORY OF  
METHODISM**





JOHN WESLEY.

5170807

# THE POPULAR HISTORY OF METHODISM.

BY

JOHN TELFORD, B.A.,

AUTHOR OF

"LIFE OF JOHN WESLEY," "LIFE OF CHARLES WESLEY," ETC.

---

THIRD EDITION

---

"I have been reading with wondering admiration your popular History. It will do a great work."

REV. DR. MORTON, *August 30th, 1897.*

London :

CHARLES H. KELLY, 2, CASTLE STREET, CITY ROAD, E.C.  
AND 26, PATERNOSTER ROW, E.C.

1899.

UNION  
THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE  
TORONTO.

# CONTENTS.

## PREPARATION FOR METHODISM.

LIFE AT EPWORTH.						PAGE
The Mother of Methodism .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	9
The Father of the Wesleys .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	11
Mrs. Wesley and her Children .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	12
John Wesley's escape from the Fire .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	13
His Mother's Training .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	14
SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY.						
Life at Charterhouse .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	16
Early Religious Impressions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	18
A Poor Man's Testimony .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	19
Serious Thoughts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	19
Charles Wesley becomes Serious .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	20
First Converts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	20
OXFORD METHODISM.						
The Name "Methodist" .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	22
A Description of Wesley .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	24
The Oxford Methodists .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	25
An Irish Methodist .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	25
George Whitefield .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	26
Wesley's Generosity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	29
Wesley's Reputation .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	29
FINAL STAGE OF PREPARATION.						
Mission to Georgia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	30
Wesley in Savannah .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	31
Influence of the Moravians .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	32
The Wesleys find rest .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	34

## THE EVANGELIST OF ENGLAND.

## THE GREAT AWAKENING.

	PAGE
The Eve of the Evangelical Revival .. .. .	37
The State of England .. .. .	37
Field Preaching .. .. .	38
First Methodist Chapel .. .. .	39
Open-air Services in London .. .. .	39
London Methodism .. .. .	42
The Methodist Society .. .. .	44
Methodist Finance .. .. .	44
Rules of the Society .. .. .	47

## EXTENSION OF WESLEY'S FIELD.

Wesley in Newcastle-on-Tyne .. .. .	50
The Ipworth Awakening .. .. .	52
Rapid Progress .. .. .	53
West London Methodism .. .. .	54
Methodism in Ireland .. .. .	56
Methodism in Scotland .. .. .	57

## WESLEY'S HELPERS AND ITINERANT LIFE.

Lay Preachers .. .. .	59
The Preacher's Horse .. .. .	60
Kingswood School .. .. .	60
Wesley's Conference .. .. .	62
Wesley's Itinerancy .. .. .	63
Wesley's Journals .. .. .	64
The Mob .. .. .	66
Days of Peril.. .. .	68

## DISTINCTIVE TEACHING.

Methodist Doctrine .. .. .	69
Assurance of Salvation .. .. .	70
Entire Sanctification .. .. .	71
Appeals to Men of Reason and Religion.. .. .	72
Elements of Success.. .. .	73



CONTENTS.

vii.

SOME MEMORABLE INCIDENTS.

	PAGE
The Wesleys Marry.. .. .	75
John Fletcher.. .. .	76
Calvinistic Controversy .. .. .	78
City Road Chapel .. .. .	79
The Deed of Declaration .. .. .	81
American Methodism .. .. .	81
Bishop Asbury .. .. .	84

WESLEY'S CHURCHMANSHIP AND WORK.

Wesley's Views on Orders .. .. .	87
Wesley's Ordinations .. .. .	88
Wesley and the Church of England .. .. .	91
Appearance and Habits .. .. .	96
Wesley as a Preacher .. .. .	97
Cheap Literature .. .. .	98
Wesley as a Social Reformer .. .. .	99
Charles Wesley's Death .. .. .	101
John Wesley's Last Years and Death .. .. .	106
The Blessing of Wesley's Long Life .. .. .	108
Wesley's Sayings .. .. .	109

**METHODISM SINCE WESLEY'S DEATH.**

SACRAMENTAL CONTROVERSY, ETC.

Arrangements after Wesley's Death .. .. .	112
Parties in Methodism .. .. .	113
Wesley's Letter to the Conference .. .. .	114
The Old Plan and the New .. .. .	116
Plan of Pacification .. .. .	118
Further Liberal Measures .. .. .	119
Formation of Districts .. .. .	121
Status of the Preachers .. .. .	121

## METHODIST MISSIONS.

	PAGE
Missionary Bishop of Methodism.. .. .	123
Branch Missionary Societies .. .. .	125
Methodism in Antigua .. .. .	127
Other Missions founded .. .. .	127
Work and Workers.. .. .	129
Affiliated Conferences .. .. .	129

## NOTABLE EVENTS.

Training of Ministers .. .. .	130
Days of Agitation .. .. .	132
Primitive Methodists and Bible Christians .. .. .	136
The Centenary of Methodism .. .. .	136
Methodism in the Army .. .. .	138
Army Work at Gibraltar .. .. .	140

## THE METHODISM OF OUR OWN TIMES.

Changes in Conference and District Meeting .. .. .	143
Educational Work .. .. .	145
The Thanksgiving Fund .. .. .	146
Great Town Missions .. .. .	147
Village Methodism.. .. .	148
Work among Children .. .. .	149
The Allan Library .. .. .	149
Methodist Periodical Literature .. .. .	150
Centenary of Wesley's Death .. .. .	151
Funds .. .. .	153
Sunday Schools and Wesley Guild .. .. .	154
Statistics .. .. .	154
Twentieth Century Fund .. .. .	157
Testimonies .. .. .	158
Position of Methodism .. .. .	159

# THE POPULAR HISTORY OF METHODISM.

## PREPARATION FOR METHODISM.

### *LIFE AT EPWORTH.*

**The Mother of Methodism.**—Methodism received its name in the University of Oxford, but its real birthplace was the nursery of Epworth Rectory. There Susannah Wesley laid the foundation for the Evangelical Revival by her training of John and Charles Wesley. Isaac Taylor said long ago that "the Wesleys' mother was the mother of Methodism," and that verdict is endorsed by all historians. Mrs. Wesley had nineteen children, and her life was a prolonged struggle with straitened means and unfriendly circumstances, yet she approved herself in every relation of life, a wise, brave, devout, tender, noble woman. Her father was Dr. Samuel Annesley, nephew of the first Earl of Anglesea, and Vicar of St. Giles', Cripplegate. After his ejection from his living in 1662, Dr. Annesley became the St. Paul of the Nonconformists. At the age of thirteen his youngest daughter studied the controversy between the Church and the Nonconformists, and decided to cast in her lot with the Church of England.