

WIG WASHING.

We will close our survey of early Methodist circuit finance by looking at the intriguing item "Wig washing 5/-", as it only occurs in the first year's accounts. One's imagination, nourished on plates in early copies of the *Arminian Magazine*, pictures the preachers with a straight fringe of natural hair on the forehead; but now and then one finds a wig. John Allen (1766-1810), the senior preacher at this time, is likely to have worn one. What kind of a wig it was can be gathered from Sutcliffe's account of the Conference, 1790. (*Proceedings* xv, 57).

A long table being placed across the Chapel, which had no pews, Mr. Wesley sat in a chair at the head of the table, and about 20 venerable men on the benches, 10 on each side, distinguished by bushy or cauliflower wigs. Aged men that had borne the heat of the day."

It is true we are left in delicious uncertainty as to whether some wigs were *bushy* and some were *cauliflower*. Or whether every wig was both *bushy* and *cauliflower*. But this insoluble uncertainty increases the fascination of the phrase.

The late F. H. MILLS.

This concludes Mr. Mills' notes on Early Methodist finance in the Wakefield Circuit. We hope to print in our next issue an interesting description which he appended of a remarkable character among the first Methodists in the town, whom he calls "one of the men behind the money."

## WESLEYANA AT KEIGHLEY

The Temple Street Church, Keighley, is one of the historic churches of Methodism. In 1942 will be celebrated the bicentenary of the introduction of Methodism into the town by John Nelson. Many will regret that Mr. J. W. Laycock, of Temple Street Church, is no longer alive to record the history of these two hundred years, as he has so admirably portrayed the years 1734-1784 in his book *Methodist Heroes in the Great Haworth Round*.

Mr. Laycock was a great student of Methodist history, and most of the materials which he used in the compilation of his book, as well as many other items of interest, are preserved in the safe and strongroom at Keighley. The writer felt that it would be a valuable thing to have some kind of an inventory of these documents made available to all students of Methodist history, and with the kind collaboration of the Rev. W. B. Mattinson he has been able to prepare the following account.

A. *In the Vestry.*

1. Letter from Wesley to Thomas Rankin, from Bristol, March 20, 1762. This is included in *Standard Letters* iv 180, although the transcription there is modernised in several particulars, including, of course, the use of capital letters. Wesley also used the ampersand (&) on the two occasions when "and" is printed: the reference to his well-known book is to *Primitive Physic*, with the "k" omitted: the letter is addressed "To Mr. Tho Ranken . . .". Below the seal is written by Wesley "Nuntia / She that tells news". The letter was presented to the church by Rev. John Laycock, in memory of his father, Mr. J. W. Laycock.

2. Various bills and photographs illustrating the early history of Methodism in Keighley.

B. *In the Safe*

3. Circuit Account Book. 1748-1794. Vellum-bound, measuring six inches by 15. On the fly-leaf is written:

Oct. 18th. 1748. / At a Meeting then held at Major Marshall's at Todmorden Edge in the Parish of Rochdale and County of Lancaster of the Leaders of several Classes in several Religious Societies (to wit). Rosindale—Rough Lee—Hepponstal—Todmorden &c. The following Persons were chosen Stewards of the s<sup>d</sup> Societies, and intrusted to transact the temporal Affairs /

James Greenwood.

John Parker

John Madi.

James Dyson.

Memorandum. It was then agreed That if there be any just Cause to Exchange any of the above Stewards It shall be done at the next Quarterly Meeting held for the s<sup>d</sup> Societies by the Approbation of the Leaders then present.

Note If any Dispute arise touching the choosing of a Steward, the greater Number of Voices shall have the Choice, to elect a fresh Steward. This shall be mentioned to our Minister Mr. John Wesley or his Successor who shall end any Dispute of this kind "

Then follows, in a different hand

"Stewards for the Year 1757

Thomas Colbeck

W<sup>m</sup>. Greenwood

Sam<sup>l</sup>. Fielden

Geo: Ramsbottom

Parson Greenwood

Tho: Holdworth

Jam: Hunter

Mr. W<sup>m</sup>. Grimshaw died April 7. 1767. (should be 1763?) [The query in another writing, about Grimshaw's death, is of course correct.]

The next few pages, which had originally been left blank, were later used up to give (1) the dates of the Quarterdays, from Jan. 19th, 1758, to Oct. 13, 1763. (2) the circuit accounts from July 1793-July 1794.

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Then follow the main entries of the account-book. The left-hand pages deal with "Cash received" and the right-hand with "Cash paid." The top left corner of the first page is dated "Oct. 18th 1748. / Todmorden Edge Acct.", and is followed by details of money received from the societies at Todmorden, "Hepponstal", Rough Lee, "Rosindale", and Rochdale. These accounts are in the same strong, dignified hand as the first inscription in the book. The next opening, dated "Jan. 10th, 1748" (which should be "1749") adds returns from "Goodshaw Chappel" to those from the original five. Among the disbursements are

To William Darney's Wife	1	10	0
A pair of Boots for Wm. Darney	14	0	

The next opening, dated "April 10th, 1749" adds to the societies contributing Higham, Padiam &c, items amongst the expenses being

To Wm. Darney's Wife	2	2	0
To Wm. Greenwood of Hepponstal	5	0	
To Mr. Uttley 1st. Vol. Sermon's	3	1	

Lodge and Midgley societies are added in the next entry, for "July 11th, 1749", expenditure items including

Given to Hallifax Society towards defraying the Law-charge	1	10	6
Pd. for a Quarters Rent for ye preach <sup>r</sup> Room at Milners Barn	5	0	
To Wm. Darney's Wife	1	10	0

On "Oct. 31st, 1749" "Millerbarn" is added to the list of societies contributing, whilst Padiam, Rosindale, and Midgley are omitted. At the foot of the right-hand page, in a different hand (Grimshaw's), is the following note :

Whereas it appears from this book yt. no Accounts are therein inserted from October 31st. 1749 to this present Day July the 25 1754 - Be it know yt. the Reason of it is the Discontinuing Quarter : Meetings from that to this Day.

The accounts from this date onward until 1762 are in William Grimshaw's hand. They are briefer as far as details are concerned, though fuller use is made of the space available, instead of one page being reserved for one quarter's accounts, as by the previous entrant. In 1754 Keighley and Haworth appear among the contributing societies, as well as Mixenden, Haslingden, Simonstone, Burley, Otley, & Ludenden in 1755. Giving the balance in hand, on Oct. 23, 1755, he enters

"Remains in Wm Grimshaw's Hand 04 00 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ "

whilst on Oct. 21, 1756 the balance was "07 15 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Out of the balance of £8-3-11 on April 21st 1757, £4 was "Given Jonathan Maskew towards buying an Horse on April 21st 1757"

In 1759 the balance was put to still another use, and the minute authorising such was signed by six members of the Quarterly Meeting:

Jan: 18th. 1759. It was this day agreed by the preachers and Stewards of this Round that the Sum of 2*£*:16*s* 9*d*: $\frac{1}{2}$  at the Foot of this Quarter's Account and lodged in the hand of Wm. Grimshaw Minr. of Haworth shall be disposed of by the said Wm. Grimshaw in defraying the charges of Building the preaching House at Haworth as witness our Hands this Day and year above said: -

Alex Coute (? Alexander Coates)  
James Oddie  
Thos Colbeck  
Willm. Greenwood  
Parson Greenwood  
Saml. Fielden

The first appearance of Bacup in these accounts is under the date "Jan: 14th, 1762", which contains the entry

"Of Bacup and Mr. Barn Cl[ass] by Ditto [= William Rodd] 1 1 6". The expenditure at the same Quarter Day includes

"To Bro<sup>r</sup> Rodd towards paying for an Horse 1 10 0"  
in addition to

"To Wm. Rodd. Qr. Sal. & Charges 3 5 0."

Bacup's next entry is for Oct. 14, 1762, when 17/- from that society was brought by W. Darney.

On the page following this last entry, and under the same date, Grimshaw wrote "Nothing remains in Arrear. —". This ends his connection with the account-book, which was taken over by William Fugill.

3a. "Keighley Wesleyan Quarter Day Book", 1797-1882.

4. "The Register of Kighley Society July 1777." Calf-bound book, measuring four inches by thirteen, containing a list of the members in the Keighley Circuit, 1008 in number. Then follows a list of the 1280 members attached to the circuit in June, 1779, compiled by J. Allen, the 1395 members in June, 1780, compiled by J. Hindmarsh, and the 1221 members in July, 1781, compiled by S. Bradburn. (One notices the remarkable likeness of Bradburn's writing to that of John Wesley). Last of all comes the list for 1782, unnumbered and unsigned, with some pages at the back torn out. (This item should really come amongst the "Roll-Books," between Nos. 7 and 8.)

C. *In an unlabelled deed-box.*

5. The Keighley Society Account Book, giving the income and expenditure from Feb. 13. 1766 to October 14, 1779. It is well-kept, with full details. After the last entries of accounts there follows in another contemporary hand,

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"The Entries in this book from its commencement to this date were written by Mr. Thos. Colbeck the Society Steward. He died on the fifth day of November 1779—from the effects of a fever which he caught while visiting and praying with a person who died of that infection." The books show a balance owing to Colbeck of £4-13-6½, which was straightened out by the end of the year, so that at the end of the book could be inscribed

"all this Book Ball<sup>d</sup> Jy. 5 1780.

Wm. Illingworth."

Later pages in the same book, however, show that other money had been owing to Colbeck in addition to the adverse balance on the Society Funds

6. A manuscript book of J. W. Laycock's notes, with an index.

F. BAKER.

*(To be Continued).*

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## THE NEW ZEALAND BRANCH RE-ORGANIZATION

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The New Zealand Branch of the W.H.S. was founded in 1930, with the Rev. Dr. C. H. Laws as President, and the Rev. Geo. Frost as Secretary and Treasurer, some fifty members being enrolled. Vice-Presidents, according to the latest lists we have seen, are Rev. Percy R. Paris (Wellington), Rev. M. A. Rugby Pratt, F. R. Hist. Soc. (Christchurch), Rev. A. B. Chappell M.A., Auckland. Mr. Frost has served throughout the existence of the Branch except for a short period when Rev J. Grocott was Secretary, and he deserves the grateful thanks of all who are interested in Methodist History. Dr. Laws should also be included in this expression of gratitude, and the locally printed leaves owe much to the skilled work of writers whom we have mentioned from time to time. Rev. G. I. Lawrenson became Secretary in 1941.

The Branch has collected the subscriptions of its members, and has received from us every quarter a copy of our *Proceedings* for each of them, to whom they were issued with some pages of local matter. A complete file of these pages is in our hands, forming a valuable permanent record of much interesting information.

preach in the New Chapel on Thursday evening, the very day I intended leaving London; on this account I postpone my journey one day so that instead of Thursday I leave London for certain on Friday morning next, and reach Liverpool on Sunday morning. I still hope to be in Dublin on Wednesday the 30th inst., or Thursday the 1st July. I would just mention that it is really surprising the vast number of field preaching there is in and about London at present, more especially in Moorfields, where I suppose of a Sunday there is not much less than 9 or 10 sermons preached by people of various denominations. Mr. Wesley's preachers preach twice every Sunday there, at 7 in the morning and 7 in the evening and large congregations attend and behave I may say with as much solemnity as if they were in a Chapel.

(Miss Freeman adds a note to say that this was posted in London on 21st inst., and she received it in Dublin 24th inst.)

F. J. COLE.

## WESLEYANA AT KEIGHLEY

### Part II

*D. In a small square box in strong-room.*

7. "Account of Kighley Round: Taken Nov 1762/3. W. F." (= William Fugill.) 4to Volume bound in vellum, containing different items bound together. (a) It commences with details of the quarterly collections at the various places, from 1764-1775. (b) Then follows a Class-Book, or rather a Roll-Book for the whole Circuit, with some pages missing at the beginning. This second section consists of 56 pages, each ruled with four narrow columns (probably to record details of the quarterly tickets), and then wider column for the names of members under their respective societies, whether "M"(arried or "u"(nmarried), their "Occupation", and their "Residence." the societies whose members are thus recorded are in the following order and spelling: Roughlee: Padiam continued: Bentley Wood Green: Burnley: Padiam: Cockshott House: Brimicroft: Haslington: Millend: Bacup Society: Dunackshaw: Faicot: Bewersall: Gaukesholm: Rodill End: Horrocklee: New Mill: Carr Society: Heptonstall: Booth Society: Mixenden: Elland: Benroyd: Blackmires: Oakes Society: Welsden Hill: Binley Society: Bailden: Guiesley

Society: Otley Society: Askwith Society: Burley Society: Adingham: Haworth Society: Denbom Society: Holme House: Sutton Society: Kighley Society: Fewstone Society: Greanah Hill: Pately Bridge: Lofthouse Society: Skythorn Society: Guesborn Society: Holden House Society: Wigglesworth Society: Lupton Soceity: Black Burton: Kendal Soceity: Longpreston: Meneth Hill Soceity: Skipton Soceity: Redshaw Soceity: Rathmill Society: Kighley (continued): Whitehaven Society: Cockermouth: Workington: Lorton Society: Branthwate Society: Coldbeck Society: Braken Hill Soceity: Wigton Society.

This list is undated, but is certainly prior to 1769, as in that year the Whitehaven section became a separate circuit. It seems probable that the title given to the book by William Fugill in 1763 refers to this section, and that the quarterly collections, 1764-1775, have been interpolated. This is the conclusion to which J. W. Laycock apparently came, for the appendix to his *Methodist Heroes* uses entry in this list as implying that the society named was in existence in 1763. Another possibility is that the first half of the book was left blank for some reason, and afterwards utilised for the quarterly collections. The paper throughout the book is exactly the same, watermarked with a crown and GR, but with no date; the crown is placed over an oval panel showing Britannia.

The Bacup section of the list has recently been reprinted as Appendix III to the *Centenary Souvenir of Mount Pleasant Methodist Church, Bacup*, by Wm. J. H. Ogden.

(c) The remaining few sheets, after Fugill's "Account", are occupied with "An Acc't of the N<sup>s</sup> in each Society in Haworth Circuit. Taken by Tho<sup>s</sup> Johnson. July 1774" and a similar account for 1775. In 1774 there were 1213 members, and in 1775 1344.

(For the 1777-1782 Roll-Book see No. 4).

8. "The Register of Societies in the Keighley Circuit. 1787." This shows that there were 42 societies, with 1240 members. It is signed on July 21 by "Jos. Bradford." In 1788 there were 1312 members; in 1789, 1340; in 1790, 1487; in 1792, 1027; in 1793, 1024; in 1795 the entry is "I think you will find 1360 good members."; in 1796 there were 1420; in 1797, 1402; in 1798, 1294... This is a quarto volume, and the entries are usually divided into two columns.

9. "The Register Book of the Keighley Circuit. 1799." This continues down to 1820 similar lists to those in the last item, and also gives some details of circuit collections from 1819 to 1822. It is again a quarto volume.

10. "A Register containing Abstracts of the Chapel Deeds in Keighley Circuit. 1809." This Register is revised to July 1842, and is signed "James Allen Minister. John Laycock Cirt. Stewd."

11. The Journal of Allen Edmundson, 4to. This is little more than a register of the texts of sermons heard by Edmundson, who seems to have been, like many of his zealous contemporaries, something of a spiritual gipsy. He travelled all round the West Riding of Yorkshire, recording the texts, and sometimes giving the outlines, of sermons preached both by the famous and the obscure. In *Proc.* ix: 135-8, 191-4, under the title of "A Methodist Sermon Register of the Eighteenth Century" extracts were given from Edmundson's Journal for 1784 and 1785, and it is stated "It is the continuation of an earlier book of the same kind which has been lost." The volume now described is the lost book, covering the years 1779 to 1783. Various items show that Mr. J. W. Laycock did not use it in his *Methodist Heroes in the Great Haworth Round* (see especially his reference on p. 355 to possible visits of Wesley to Keighley in 1781, definitely proved by Edmundson's entries for that year).

Strangely enough, whilst this volume of Edmundson's Journal, which Mr. Laycock announced as lost, now appears amongst his mss., the volume from which he published extracts in the *Proc.*, is missing! Perhaps someone is able to trace its whereabouts?

The following extracts include all the references to Wesley in Edmundson's Journal.

Edmundson begins:

Thursday, August 19, 1779.

Mr. James Hindmarsh preached at Kighley from the XII Chapter of Hebrews, Verse 15.

Sattarday April 22th, the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. John Wesley preach'd at Kighley from the LIX. Chap of Isiaiah, the 1 & 2 Verses, Behold, the Lords hand is not shortned . . . Sunday April 23. in the morning Mr. Josphth Bradford prea<sup>d</sup> in Bingley Church from Acts. the XX chapter verse, the 27, I have not shunned to declare unto you all the Counsel of God—he had only one head, which was to shew, what was all the Counsel of God, he devided it into four perticklers, Repent, Believe, Love, and Obey,



# WESLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Again at one o'clock Mr. Bradford pre<sup>d</sup> at Bingley from Colossians the III Chap. verse the 4 . . . .

Again in the afternoon Mr. Wesley, pre<sup>d</sup> in this Church at Bingley from the VII Chap of S. Matthew Verce the 24 to the 28.

Again at night M<sup>r</sup>. Wesley preach't at Kighley from the XIV, chapter of S. John. verse the 23 . . . .

Monday April 24. at five in the morning M<sup>r</sup> Wesley pre<sup>d</sup> from the second general of PETER. the II, chap. the 9 verse . . . .

1781. "Sattarday July the 21, 1781, the Rev'd Mr. Wesley preach't at Kighley from the XXIV. chapter of Joshua and part of the 15, verse, but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Sunday the 22 in the fornoon Mr. Wesley preach't in Bingley Church from the V. chapter of S. Matthew verse the 20 . . . .

In the Afternoon Mr. Wesley preach't again in the Church from the XVI. chapter of S. Mark. and the 16 vers, . . . he preach't at Kighley in the Evening.

Monday the 23, In the Morning at five, Mr. Wesley preach't at Kighley from the II. chapter of the Book of Habakkuk vers 14. For the Earth shall be filled with the knowlege of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. he shew'd the most probable time when and how this great work would begin and be carried on; It appeared that this Reformation would begin in England 2ly in the other Reform'd Churches, and 3ly the papists. and 4ly the Jews. 5ly the Mahometans, 6ly and lastly the Pagans.

Sunday July 29th. Mr. Wesley preach't in the Evening at the New markit. Bradford from VI. chapter of Romans. verse the 23. . .

August 13 Monday at 5 in the morning, the Rev. Mr. Wesley preach't at Leeds from the X. chapter of the I Corinthians vers the 13 . . . .

1782. "Sunday April 21. 1782. Ye Revrd Mr. Wesley, preach'd at Coln in the morning from the VII. chap of St. Matt. and the 24 and 25 ver . . . He divided the text into two heads. first he shewed the opposite, what it was not to be built upon a rock. Secondly what it was to be built upon a rock.

At noon Mr. Wesley preach'd again at Coln from the XVIII. chap. of Acts. and part of the 17, ver. And Gallio cared for none of those things. He divided the tex into two heads. First hee shew'd What the things were that Gallio car'd not for: Secondly he inquired whither it was his wisdom, or folly in not caring for those things.

Again at 4 in the Evening Mr. Wesley pre<sup>d</sup> at the same place from the V. chap. of the I. of Peter and ver. 8 . . . .

Satterday April 27, the Revd. Mr. Wesley preach'd at Keighley from the XVIII. Chap. and part of the 32. ver . . . .

Sunday April the 28 1782 Mr. Wesley preach'd at Bingley Church in the forenoon from the VII. chap of St. Matt. and the 24 & 25 verses . . . ." (the same sermon, and the same divisions, as on April 21st at Colne).

1783. "Sunday September the 7. 1783, at 7 o'clock in the Morning the Rev. Mr. Jno. Wesley preach'd at Leeds. from the first chapter of Philippians. & 21 verse. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. He shew'd what was implied in the two heads the words

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naturally divid'd themselves into viz. First. For to me to live is Christ. Secondly To die is gain . . .

Again at 1 o'clock Mr. Wesley preached at Birstal from Matt. VIII. & 3 of the first verses . . . First he shed the historical or literal meaning of the words. Secondly, the inward or spiritual meaning . . ."

(These interesting notes add several things to our knowledge of Wesley's activities during this period when neither diary nor sermon register are available to us).

12. Various letters and notes forming background of *Methodist Heroes*. These include *Wesleyan Methodism in the Keighley Circuit*. Biography. C. D. Hardcastle, 4 College Street, Keighley, which is the title-page to a 16 page manuscript dealing chiefly with Thomas Colbeck: two letters from Mr. Stott, of Haslingden, one discussing various details of early Methodism in the neighbourhood of Haslingden, the other speaking of Laycock's projected book; Stott mentions his own "Notices" of Methodism in Haslingden, and says "I think I had 350 copies printed and fancy they cost me 2/6 each—but expense was quite a secondary consideration—I wanted to give a nicely got-up book"—this book he speaks of as "A little gift to my fellow worshippers."

E. *In tin trunk in strong-room.*

13. Various letters, cuttings, &c, relating chiefly to the controversy centring on Methodism's attitude towards the higher criticism at the beginning of this century. There is an enormous amount of material, in 21 pamphlet cases and two boxes, not to speak of much that is loose. It is all prepared by J. W. Laycock, showing his industrious habit of cutting or copying out everything relevant to the subject in which he was interested, and on which he was to speak in Conference.

FRANK BAKER.

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## CIRCUIT FINANCE IN EARLY METHODISM

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### Part IV.

The last chapter ended an account of early Methodist finance in the Wakefield Circuit; payment for Wig-washing was the last matter referred to.