

PEOPLE CALLED METHODISTS.

All manner of evil was spoke of us, both in private and public, but the hearts of the people were stirred up almost in all places, "to knock these mad dogs on the head at once." And when complaint was made of their savage, brutal violence, no magistrate would do us justice. Yet by the grace of God we went on, determined to testify as long as we could, the Gospel of God our Saviour, and not counting our lives dear unto ourselves, so we might finish our course with joy.

XIV. * In October, upon a pressing invitation, I set out for Wales, and preached in several parts of Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire, chiefly in the open air: as I was not permitted to preach in the churches, and no private house would contain the congregations. And the word of God did not fall to the ground. *Many repented and believed the Gospel.* And some joined together, to strengthen each others hands in God, and to provoke one another to love and to good works.

XV. In November I † wrote to a friend a short account of what had been done in Kingswood. It was as follows:

"Few persons have lived long in the West of England, who have not heard of the colliers of Kingswood, a people famous for neither fearing God, nor regarding man: so ignorant of the things of God, that they seemed but one remove from the beasts that perish; and therefore utterly without desire of instruction, as well as without the means of it.

"Many last winter used to say of Mr. Whitefield, 'If he will convert heathens, why does he not go to the colliers of Kingswood?' In spring he did so. And as there were thousands who resorted to no place of worship, he went after them to their own wilderness, *to seek and save that which was lost.* When he was called away, others went *into the highways and hedges to compel them to come in.* And by the grace of God, their labour was not in vain. The scene is already changed. Kingswood does not now, as a year ago, resound with cursing and blasphemy. It is no more filled with drunkenness and uncleanness, and the idle diversions that

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