

apparent. We judge of a tree by its fruits. An evil tree cannot bring forth good fruit. Only a good tree can bring forth good fruit. Judge, then, of Wesleyan Methodism, by its fruits, and what will be the conclusion? It is, and must be, of God. Wesleyan Methodism has been, during the last one hundred years, one distinguished instrument in the hands of a gracious God of diffusing useful and religious knowledge among vast numbers of persons—of elevating the tone of public morals—extending loyal principles—ameliorating the oppressed condition of thousands of fellow beings who groaned under the painful and degraded burden of slavery, and securing their liberty—operating beneficially on the members of other churches—restoring the doctrines of the glorious Reformation—awakening and converting thousands, and tens of thousands of precious souls, many of whom have entered triumphantly into the heavenly rest, and numbers of whom are now on their way to “fairer worlds on high.” All these effects separately and conjointly bespeak the truly Christian character of Wesleyan Methodism, and when judged of by its legitimate effects, we have no fearful concern respecting the opinion formed. The Wesleyans are now called upon to review their history—the operation of their system—the benefits produced under God by this operation—and to express the sense of their obligations to the Head of the Church for the advantages personal, social, domestic, and religious, which they have derived from this “vine of his own right hand planting.” A noble *thank-offering* for Connexional purposes, has been presented by the United Societies at Home; and it is to be desired, that the Wesleyan Methodists in the British Provinces, will show, by their liberal subscriptions to the Centenary Fund, that they are *true scions of the old stock*. “The Lord loveth a cheerful giver.”

August 16, 1839.

W.

## MEMOIR OF THE LATE REV. W. BLACK.

MR. EDITOR,—Numbers of persons are anxiously looking for the appearance of your *promised* Review of the Memoir of the Rev. W. Black, by the Rev. M. Richey, A. M. The Reviews which have already appeared in the *WESLEYAN* have excited much attention, afforded gratification, and diffused information. A rich repast is anticipated from the Review in question through the columns of the *WESLEYAN*; and no doubt many will thereby be induced to secure the book itself for themselves and families. I have read it for one with much pleasure and profit. It is a “gem,” a “treasure;” and I hope it will be duly appreciated by the Christian public generally, and especially by every Wesleyan. Many things conspire to call forth the gratitude of the Methodists this Centenary year: and among others, I think they have cause of gratitude for the appearance at this interesting period of “The Centenary Volume” by Rev. T. Jackson, and the Memoir of the Rev. W. Black, by the Rev. M. Richey. The former records the history of the Founder of Methodism at Home: the latter of the Father of Methodism in Nova Scotia, &c.

August, 1839.

M.

## Obituary.

## THE LATE GIDEON OUSELEY, METHODIST MISSIONARY.

We have been favored by the kindness of a friend, with the following brief and affectionate memorial of the good and pious man whose name and calling we have prefixed. For many years we had the pleasure of Mr. Ouseley's acquaintance, and can therefore set our own seal to the fidelity of the picture of his life, principles, and manners, which is here set forth.

But the deceased himself has left more permanent memorials of his piety and intellect; and by these henceforth he must be known to the succeeding generations of his countrymen. His literary labors, in fact, fell but little short of his missionary; and the one are the faithful reflection of the other. His principal work, entitled “*Old Christianity*,” may be counted a standard work of popular controversy. It has run through many editions, and has had an amazing circulation, and is admirably calculated to do good wherever it finds its way. We doubt not that Mr. Bonsall, his constant publisher, is still supplied with copies of this, as well as his minor publications; and we earnestly recommend all who hold the memory of this excellent man in reverence to furnish themselves with copies, as soon as they can, of productions which so fully reflect the mind of their author.

“This venerable and zealous minister of the Gospel died in this city, after an illness of short duration, on Thursday, the 14th instant, in the 78th year of his age. During forty-seven years he was engaged in the arduous and important duties of his sacred mission. He was universally known, beloved, and respected by Christians of every denomination. The announcement of his death will cause many hearts to mourn.

“His first religious impressions were produced in the year 1791, by the careful perusal of the holy Scriptures. He has often mentioned Young's works, the ‘*Night Thoughts*,’ especially his ‘*Infidel Reclaimed*,’ and ‘*The Centaur not Fabulous*,’ as singularly beneficial to him at that period.

“Soon after he experienced the salutary influence of Christian truth, he became deeply impressed with the feeling that it was his duty to interest himself in the spiritual good of others. Accordingly, in the year 1799, he commenced his career as an out-door preacher. His first address was delivered in a church yard, at a funeral, to a vast number assembled on the occasion. From thenceforth, in the fairs and markets, towns, and villages, he read the holy Scriptures, and enforced divine truth with persuasive energy. He generally, when preaching in the open air, availed himself of his intimate knowledge of the Irish language to engage attention, and instruct his hearers in divine truth, through the medium of a well-understood and favourite dialect. Numberless instances might be adduced, and persons named, who, through the blessing of God upon his persevering exertions, have been savingly converted from the soul-destroying popish heresy, to truth as it is in Christ; and some of those persons are themselves at present engaged in the ministry of the Gospel in the established and other Protestant Churches.

“During the course of his long and arduous career as a Christian missionary, he encountered, without dismay, difficulties of no ordinary description. To him might be applied with truth the Apostle Paul's description of himself, ‘*In labors abundant, in deaths oft, in journeyings often, in perils by his own countrymen, in perils in the city, in perils in the country*,’ but none of these things moved him, neither ‘*counted he his life dear unto himself, so that he might finish his course with joy, and the ministry*

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