

human institution ;" it did not declare for or against Presbyterianism, or Episcopacy, for its Presbyterian section in England holds fraternal relations with its Presbyterio-Episcopal Sister in the United States, and its ordinations and ministerial *status* are reciprocally regarded as on a par. *Connexionalism*, however, is a characteristic of Methodism under every name and aspect which its many sections have assumed or preserved.

There are only three features essential to Methodism, and these have been retained by all ; namely, its *peculiar doctrines*, or its *manner* of emphasizing the doctrine of assurance, or the witness of the Spirit, and the possibility of the "perfecting" of that "holiness," "without which no man shall see God ;" certain *prudential means of grace of a social character*, such as the class and fellowship meeting, and the love-feast ; and the *itinerancy*, or the *united, rotating, itinerant pastorate*, including a central appointing power. Methodism is a *revival*—it means *conversion* ; and the preaching of the above-mentioned doctrines, and the maintenance of a ministry detached from local ties, and the frequent assembling together above referred to are necessary to conserve that revival and to promote conversions, or to the "spread of scriptural holiness over the land." If these essentials are preserved, other things may be modified according to circumstances ; for it has been a principle in Methodism from the first, that no exact system of Church order is taught in the New Testament.