

him to sing a hymn, which it was said all sung who knew their sins forgiven. (The hymn was, "My God, I am Thine," etc., 211, Wesley's Hymns.) The singing had great effect upon him, and soon he was connected with the happy band who could rejoice in hope of the glory of God. It is said of the late Rev. T. O. Keyse that for many years he sung the first stanza of this hymn as soon as he awoke every morning.

In the early days of Methodism it was a rule that all should be taught to do something for Jesus. As we have seen, Mr. Entwistle was no exception to this rule, and in one of his juvenile preaching excursions, he was the means of converting a person who, fifty years afterwards, acknowledged him as his spiritual father. Local preachers were of some account in those days, and often preached several evenings during the week, besides the Sabbath.

What was known as the Oxfordshire Circuit was the first scene of Mr. E.'s itinerant labours. The circuit comprised four counties, One of his colleagues was the Rev. Richard Reece, who, like himself, became President of Conference, and was the first representative from England to the General Conference of the M. E. Church, U. S. In all the four counties there were only four places of worship, while there were some thirty places which they regularly supplied with preaching. Their accommodation was poor, for even in Oxford, famed for its collegiate institutions, of which the founder of Methodism was one time a fellow, the home of the young preachers was a garret, for which the sum of sixpence per week was paid, and all the furniture of the room, like that of the prophet Elisha, was a bed, a chair, and a table. His friend Reece and he could only meet once a month, and even then but for a short time, to do which they both travelled several miles extra.

The Life of the Rev. D. Brainerd was a common book in those days, and for fanning the flame of piety there are not many even now which surpass it. Mr. Entwistle read it again and again with great profit, and soon he became an earnest seeker of full salvation. He "groaned after" Christian perfection, and with a view to help his piety, he wrote out a covenant, pledging himself "to use all his gifts, grace, time, health and strength for the glory of God and the good of souls." He signed and sealed this covenant upon his knees alone with God. Baxter's "Reformed Pastor" was another favourite book with him. For many years he was accustomed to read it