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BIOGRAPHY.

MEMOIR OF THE REV. JOHN WESLEY, A. M.

(Concluded from page 138.)

Two persons* were thus appointed as Superintendants or Bishops, and two as Elders with power to administer the sacraments; and the American Methodists were formed into a Church, because they could no longer remain a society attached to a colonial establishment which then ceased to exist. The propriety and even necessity of this step is sufficiently apparent; but the mode adopted exposed Mr. Wesley to the sarcasms of his brother, who was not a convert to his opinion as to the identity of the order of Bishops and Presbyters; and to all high churchmen the proceeding has had the appearance of great irregularity. The only real ir-

* It will have been seen that THOMAS COKE, L. L. D. a Presbyterian of the Church of England, was one of those. Dr. Coke was only an occasional visitant in America and though in the same office he was a Bishop there, when he returned home there he had no such office, so he used no such title, and made no such pretension. Of this truly excellent man, it must be here observed, that occasional visits to America could not satisfy his ardent mind; he became the founder and soul of the Methodist Missions in various parts of the world; first under the direction of Mr. Wesley, and then in conjunction with the Conference; and by his voyages, travels, and labours, he erected a monument of noble and disinterested zeal, and charity, which will never be obliterated.

To the Christian efforts of Dr. Coke, Nova-Scotia is much indebted for its early enjoyment of a Methodist Ministry; for by his persuasions the Messrs. James and John Mann were sent to the assistance of Mr. Black, and in his tours through the United States and in Great Britain, he so successfully excited the sympathies of his friends and the public, in behalf of our population, that considerable sums were raised which ultimately led to the permanent establishment of a Mission in these Provinces. The commencement of the Wesleyan Mission in the West India Islands originated in the Doctor's benevolent designs in favour of Nova-Scotia; for he had sailed in 1786 with three Missionaries for Halifax, but after a perilous voyage of three months, compelling them to make for the West Indies, they arrived at Antigua; and thus by a train of mysterious providences, was begun a Mission which perhaps, notwithstanding its sufferings on account of frequent and brutal persecution, has been among the most successful of the Christian church.