

To the Members and Friends
OF THE
METHODIST SOCIETIES.

VARIOUS unkind reflections having been thrown out, in certain publications, concerning such of the senior preachers as are said to direct and manage our connexion, as if they were "Tyrants and Oppressors," and the other preachers but mere "Cyphers," We, whose names are under-written, think it our duty to repel such reflections by declaring, That, instead of considering our senior brethren in the light of "Tyrants and Oppressors," we feel ourselves under great obligations to them, for their extraordinary labour and fatigue in the service of the Conference. We are satisfied, that their piety, abilities, faithfulness, diligence, usefulness, and long continuance in the work of the ministry, entitle them to the respect and esteem of the whole connexion.— And though we are taught by our Saviour, to "call no man Master upon earth;" yet, regarding them as our Fathers, we conceive it our duty to hear them speak in our conferences with that deference which is due to their age and character; especially, as we are persuaded they have greatly contributed to keep the body one in the Lord. We should think it an honour to wash their feet; and our desire and prayer is, to follow them as they have followed Christ!

Jon. Crowther,
Wm. Griffith,
Lawrence Kane,
Robert Johnson,
Jonathan Edmondson,
Tho. Lefsey,
John Gaulter,
James Byron,
John Crosby,
Timothy Crowther,
James M'Donald,
Wm. Jenkins,
Wm. Blagburne,
Wm. Sheldmerdine,
Wm. Heath,
Wm. Stevens,
Geo. Baldwin,
Jof. Surcliffe,
Robert Lomas,
Samuel Taylor,
James Buckley,
J. Stamp,
John Kirshaw,
Andrew Mayor,
C. Kirkpatrick,
John Wilshaw,
Jonathan Barker,
Tho. Yates,
Isaac Lilly,
John Riles,
James Anderson,
Tho. Hutton,

John Clark,
Francis West,
Edward Gibbons,
John Hickling,
Booth Newton,
James Scholefield,
John Brice,
Richard Hardaker,
Wm. Harrison,
Tho. Warrick,
Robert Smith,
John Barrett,
John Boyle,
Charles Gloyne,
John Foster,
Isaac Muff,
Samuel Gates,
John Beaumont,
James Penman,
Anthony Seckerfon,
Mat. Lumb,
Tho. Shaw,
Wm. Sanderfon,
Jof. Entwisle,
Thomas Wood,
Geo. Highfield,
Owen Davis,
Tho. Gill,
John Nelson,
George Sykes,
Jonathan Woodrow,
Miles Martindale,

John King,
James Hall,
Edmund Shaw,
Jof. Drake,
John Ashall,
Tho. Longley,
Tho. Simmonite,
Geo. Gibbon,
Wm. Myles,
Rob. Hopkins,
John Ogilvie,
John Barber,
C. Atmore,
Geo. Holden,
Jon. Brown,
Wm. Warrener
Jof. Taylor,
Zach. Yewdall,
Jonathan Cousins,
Wm. Simpson,
A. Suter,
Wm. West,
David Barrowclough,
John Furness,
Jof. Cole,
Charles Kyte,
Rob. Miller,
Jonathan Parkin,
Simon Day,
Samuel Botts,
Tho. Cooper,
Joseph Sanderfon.

LEEDS, August 10, 1797.