

*[Many persons in Fredericton and its vicinity having recently joined the Methodist Society, some of whom may be unacquainted with its peculiar Rules and Usages, it has in consequence been thought proper to print as many copies as will enable the Superintendent to furnish one to each Member ; and it is hoped that they will meet with an attentive and prayerful consideration.]*

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## **RULES OF THE SOCIETY**

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OF THE

### **PEOPLE CALLED METHODISTS.**

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1. In the latter end of the year 1739, eight or ten persons came to me in London, who appeared to be deeply convinced of sin, and earnestly groaning for redemption. They desired, (as did two or three more the next day,) that I would spend some time with them in prayer, and advise them how to flee from the wrath to come, which they saw continually hanging over their heads. That we might have more time for this great work, I appointed a day when they might all come together ; which, from thenceforward, they did every week, *viz.* on Thursday, in the evening. To these, and as many more as desired to join with them, (for their number increased daily,) I gave those advices from time to time which I judged most needful for them ; and we always concluded our meetings with prayer suitable to their several necessities.

2. This was the rise of the UNITED SOCIETY, first in London, and then in other places. Such a Society is no other than “*a company of men having the form, and seeking the power, of Godliness ; united, in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love, that they may help each other to work out their salvation.*”

3. That it may the more easily be discerned, whether they are indeed working out their own salvation, each Society is divided into smaller companies, called Classes, according to their respective