

and if he had, the plan must have failed, as he was a few years afterwards removed to another world. From Mr. Charles Wesley who had become a family man, and had nearly given up travelling, he had no hope as a successor; and even then a further settlement would have been necessary, because he could not be expected long to survive his brother. Still therefore this important matter was undetermined. At length Mr. Charles Wesley giving up as hopeless the return to the church, suggested the plan which his brother adopted, to devolve the government, not indeed upon one, but upon many whom he esteemed "the worthiest," for age, experience, talent, and moderation.

Mr. Wesley began in 1773 to publish a periodical work, which he entitled, "The Arminian Magazine; consisting of Extracts and Original Treatises on Universal Redemption." He needed a medium through which he could reply to the numerous attacks made upon him; and he made use of it further to introduce into general circulation several choice treatises on Universal Redemption, and to publish selections from his valuable correspondence with pious persons. He conducted this work while he lived; and it is still continued by the Conference, under the title of the "Wesleyan Methodist Magazine" on the same general principles as to its Theology, though on a more enlarged plan.

In 1783 Mr. Wesley paid a visit to Holland, having been pressed to undertake this journey by a Mr. Ferguson, formerly a member of the London Society who had made acquaintance with some pious people, who, having read Mr. Wesley's Sermons, were desirous of seeing him. With respect to this visit, after detailing his means of intercourse and of usefulness among the Dutch, he says, "I can by no means regret either the trouble or expense which attended this little journey. It opened me a way into as it were a new world, where the land, the buildings, the people, the customs were all such as I had never seen before: but as those with whom I conversed were of the same spirit with my friends in England, I was as much at home in Utrecht and Amsterdam, as in Bristol and London."———"How entirely were we mistaken in the Hollanders, supposing them to be of a cold, phlegmatic, unfriendly temper! I have not met with a more warmly affectionate people in all Europe! No, not in Ireland!

That provision for the stability and the government of the Connexion after his death, which had been to Mr. Wesley a matter of serious concern for several years, was accomplished in 1784, and gave him, whenever he subsequently adverted to the subject, the greatest satisfaction. From this time he felt that he had nothing more to do, than to spend his remaining life in the same spiritual labours in which he had been so long engaged; and that he had done all that a true prudence required to provide for the continuance and extension of a work which had so strangely enlarged under his superintendence.

This settlement was effected by a legal instrument enrolled in Chancery, called "A deed of Declaration," in which one hundred Preachers, mentioned by name, were declared to be "the Conference of the people