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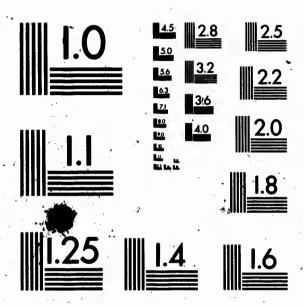
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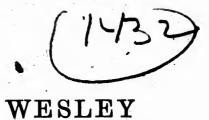


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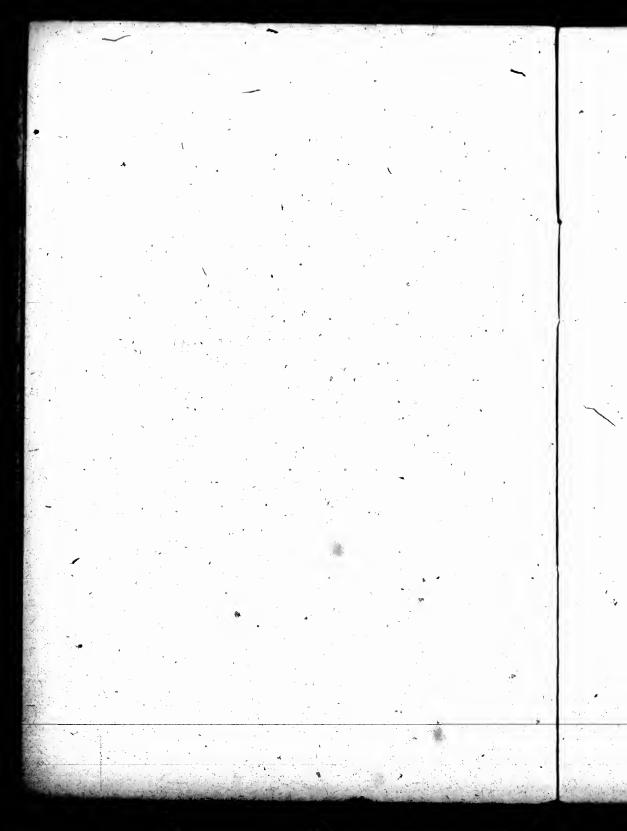
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NOTE.

This Pamphlet is compiled from "Wesley's Journals, Letters," etc., for "Gospel Tent" use. The object is to give a short account of Prostration, etc., in meetings conducted and sanctioned by him.

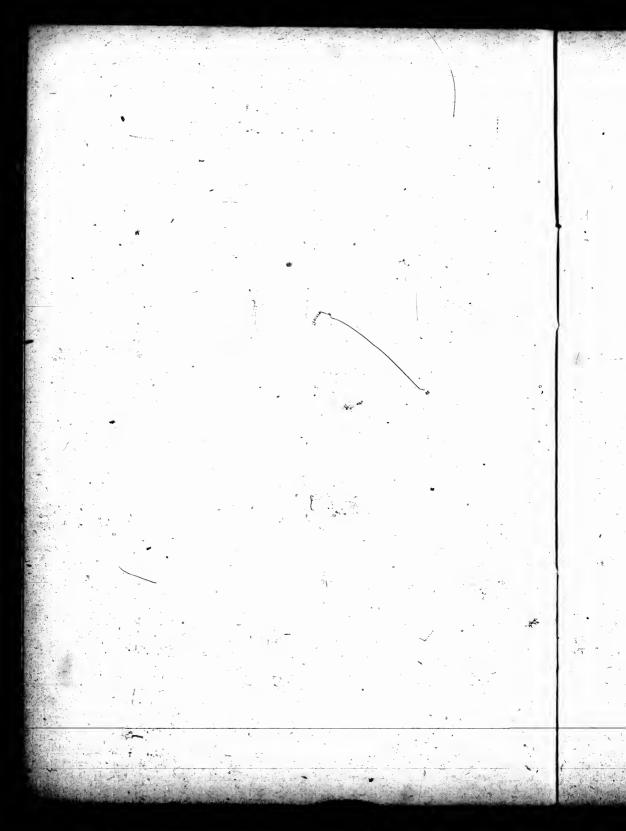
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CONTENTS.

	/	; I.		•	PAGE.
SINNERS P	ROSTI	RATED	<	- •	7
	n -e	II.	•	, ,	8
BELIEVERS	Pros	STRATED		٠ .	15
ti .	8	III.	q		
SHOUTING	•	- -	•	- ,	21
ue 4		IV.			
LAUGHING	-	. • .	⊹-	•	28
10	()) · · ·	V.	· Tree	• -	
OPPOSITION	OT P	Noise	•	•	- 29





WESLEY ON PROSTRATION, ETC.

SINNERS PROSTRATED.

- I. Journal, April 26, 1739. Vol. I., p. 188.— Immediately one, and another, and another, sunk to the earth; they dropped on every side as thunderstruck.
- 2. Journal, May 1, 1739. Vol. I., p. 190.—
 A Quaker who stood by was not a little displeased at the dissimulation of those creatures, and was biting his lips and knitting his brows when he dropped down as thunderstruck. The agony he was in was even terrible to behold. We besought God not to lay folly to his charge, and he soon lifted up his head and cried aloud: "Now I know that thou art a prophet of the Lord."
- 3. Journal, May 21, 1739. Vol. I., p. 196.—Another person dropped down close to one who was a strong assenter of the contrary doctrine. While he stood astonished at the sight, a little boy near him was seized in the same manner. A young man who stood up behind fixed his eyes on him and sunk down himself as one dead, but soon began to roar out and beat himself against the ground, so that six men could scarcely hold him.

- 4. Journal, June 15, 1739. Vol. I., p. 203.—Many of those that heard began to call upon God with strong cries and tears. Some sunk down, and there remained no strength in them; others exceedingly trembled and quaked, some were torn with a kind of convulsive motion in every part of their bodies, and that so violently that often four or five persons could not hold one of them. I have seen many hysterical and many epileptic fits, but none of them were like these in many respects.
- 5. Journal, July 7, 1739. Vol. I., p. 210.— I had an opportunity to talk with him (Whitfield) of those outward signs which had so often accompanied the inward work of God. I found his objections were chiefly grounded on gross misrepresentations of matter of fact. But the next day he had an opportunity of informing himself better; for no sooner had he begun (in the application of his sermon) to invite all. sinners to believe in Christ, than four persons sank down close to him, almost in the same moment. One of them lay without either sense or motion. A second trembled exceedingly. The third had strong convulsions all over his body, but made no noise, except by groans. The fourth equally convulsed, calling upon God, with strong cries and tears.
- 6. Journal, Oct. 6, 1740. Vol. I., p. 289.—While I was preaching at Islington, and rebuking sharply those who had made shipwreck of the faith, a woman dropped down, struck, as was supposed, with death, having the use of all her limbs quite taken from her. But she knew the

next day, she should "not die, but live, and declare the loving-kindness of the Lord."

- 7. Journal, July 15, 1743. Vol. II., p. 22.— S—T—, then about ten years and three-quarters old, waked in perfect health. She had never had any fits of any kind, nor any considerable sickness. About six in the morning she was rising, and inwardly prayed to God; when, on a sudden, she was seized with a violent trembling. Quickly after she lost her speech; in a few minutes her hearing; then her sight, and, at the same time, all sense and motion.
- 8. Journal, Sept. 24, 1746. Vol. II., p. 33.— While I was afterwards meeting the society, one grievous backslider, who had been for some time as in the belly of hell, was struck to the earth, and roared aloud. He ceased not till God restored the pearl he had lost.
- 9. Journal, April 27, 1748. Vol. II., p. 95.— In the evening I read the letters, my voice being weak, but, I believe audible. As I was reading one from S.G., a young woman dropped down, and cried out exceedingly; but in a few minutes her sorrow was turned into joy, and her mourning into praise.
- To. Journal, Sept. 25, 1748. Vol. II., p. 117. —While I was enforcing, "We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God," a young woman, till then quite unawakened, was cut to the heart and sunk to the ground; though she could not give a clear, rational account of the manner how the conviction seized upon her.
 - 11. Journal, June 17, 1749. Vol. II., p. 139.

—When I had at length pronounced the blessing no man stirred, but each stayed in his place
till I walked through them. I was soon called
back by one calling out, "My God! my God!
Thou hast forgotten me!" Having spoken this,
she sunk to the earth. We called upon God in
her behalf. The cries of both her and several
others, mourning after God, redoubled. But
we continued wrestling with God in prayer till
He gave us an answer of peace.

A large congregation came at five. The word now sunk deep. Some dropped down, and one or two were carried away. At nine I preached to a much larger congregation, and the word was sharper than ever. Four or five could not bear it, but went away. Some would have gone away but could not, for the hand of the Lord pressed them to the earth.

13. Journal, Aug. 29, 1755. Vol. II., p. 340.

—In the evening I was at St. Ewe. One or two felt the edge of God's sword and sunk to the ground; and, indeed, it seemed as if God would suffer none to escape Him.

14. Journal, Sept. 14, 1755. Vol. II., p. 344.
—Soon after ten we went to Redruth Church.
A young gentlewoman in the next pew, who had been laughing and talking just before—while the confession was reading—seemed very uneasy, then screamed out several times, dropped down, and was carried out of the church.

15. Journal, May 21, 1758. Vol. 11., p. 445.

—I was much pleased with the seriousness and decency of the congregation at church. But

they were a little hurried in the middle of the service. A young man dropped down as dead. In a little time, however, he came to himself and was led out of the church.

16. Journal, Nov. 9, 1758. Vol. II., p. 463.—We lodged at Mr. Hickes', the Vicar, a witness of the faith which once he persecuted. The next morning I preached in his church again. In the middle of the sermon, a woman before me dropped down as dead, as one had done the night before. In a short time she came to herself, and remained deeply sensible of her want of Christ.

17. Journal, May 20, 1759. Vol. II., p. 483.—
"Several fainted and cried out while Mr. Berridge was preaching. Afterwards at church many cried out, especially children, whose agonies were amazing." "When the power of religion came to be spoken of, the presence of God filled the place. This occasioned a mixture of various sounds, some shrieking, some wailing aloud."
"Great numbers wept without any noise. Others fell down as dead, some sinking in silence; some with extreme pain and violent agitation." P. 485.—"Immediately after, a stranger, well dressed, who stood facing me, fell backward to the wall; then forward on his knees, wringing his hands, and roaring like a bull."

18. Journal, May 24, 1759. Vol. II., p. 486.—
"Mr. B—Il and I went to hear Mr. Hicks, at Wrestlingworth, four miles from Everton. We discoursed with him first, and were glad to hear he had wholly given himself up to the glorious work of God, and that the power of the Highest

fell upon his hearers as upon Mr. B-e's. While he was preaching, fifteen or sixteen persons felt the arrows of the Lord, and dropped down. A few of these cried out with the utmost violence and little intermission for some hours. the rest made no great noise, but continued struggling, as in the pangs of death." violent struggling of many in the above mentioned churches has broke several pews and benches. Yet it is common for the people to remain unaffected there, and afterward drop down in their way home. Some have been found lying as dead in the road; others in Mr. B-e's garden; not being able to walk from the church to his house, though it is not two hundred yards."

Mr. Hicks accompanied me to Mildrid. On the way we called at a farmer's house. After dinner I went into his yard, and seeing near an hundred and fifty people, I called for a table, and preached, for the first time, in the open air. Two persons were seized with strong convictions, fell down, and cried out most bitterly.

This morning, Ann Simpson, aged sixteen or seventeen, lay near an hour in the utmost distress, shrieking out, "Christ! Christ!" and no other word; her face all the time being violently distorted. I left her awhile, but could scarce sit down before I heard the voice of praise. I went, and found her heaviness turned into joy, even the joyful assurance that her sins were pardoned. She sprang by me to a young woman who lay in

a kind of trance, and clasped her in her arms, breathing forth praise to God.

- Caleb Price spoke to about two hundred people.
 The Lord was wonderfully present, more than twenty persons feeling the arrows of conviction.
 Several fell to the ground; some of whom seemed dead; others in the agonies of death, the violence of their bodily convulsions exceeding all description.
- My patience at last began to fail, and I prayed, "O King of Glory, break some of them in pieces, but let it be to the saving of their souls!" 'I had but just spoke when I heard a dreadful noise, and saw one Thomas Skinner coming forward, the most horrible human figure I ever saw. He roared incessantly, throwing and clapping his hands together with his whole force. Several men terrified, and hasted out of his way. They would fain have got him away; but he fell to the earth, crying, "My burden! my burden!"
 - 23. Journal, Jan, 7, 1762. Vol. III., p. 78.— Hence we rode to Barley, where I preached at one. A middle-aged woman dropped down at my side, and cried aloud for mercy. It was not long before God put a new song in her mouth.
 - 24. Journal, March 18, 1765. Vol. III., p. 205.—Toward the close of the sermon a young man dropped down, and vehemently cried to God. After supper I was speaking a little, when a young gentleman cried out, "I am damned," and fell to the ground. A second did

so quickly after, and was much convulsed and yet quite sensible.

- 25. Journal, June 14, 1769. Vol. III., p. 366. -It was an uncommon time, particularly with regard to those who had opposed the truth. One dropped down like a stone; many trembled and wept exceedingly.
- 26. Journal, June 30, 1769. Vol. III., p. 370. -In the middle of the sermon a young woman, who was a sinner, endeavored for awhile to hide her tears by creeping behind another, till, in a few minutes, her strength failed, and she sunk down to the ground. I was sorry they carried her away, otherwise, I think she would have soon lifted up her head with joy.
- 27. Journal, June 6, 1772. Vol. III., p. 473. -As we were concluding an eminent backslider came strongly into my mind, and I broke out abruptly, "Lord, is Saul also among the prophets? Is James Watson here? If he be, show Thy power." Down dropped James Watson like a stone, and began crying aloud for mercy.
- 28. "Short history of the people called Methodists." Vol. XIII., p. 376.—These, hearing of the roaring of the people, came out of mere curiosity. That evening six were wounded, and fell to the ground, crying aloud for mercy. One of them, hearing the cry, rushed through the crowd to see what was the matter. He was no sooner got to the place, than he dropped down himself, and cried as loud as any. The other three, rushing on, one after another, were struck lust in the same manner; and, indeed, all of them were in such agonies, that many feared they

were struck with death. But all the ten were fully delivered before the meeting concluded; which, indeed, was not till four in the morning.

BELIEVERS PROSTRATED.

- About three in the morning, as we were continuing instant in prayer, the power of God came mightily upon us, insomuch that many cried out for exceeding joy and many fell to the ground. As soon as we were recovered a little from that awe and amazement at the presence of His Majesty, we broke out with one voice, "We praise Thee, O God; we acknowledge," etc.
- 2. Journal, April 21, 1739. Vol. I., p. 187.—At Weaver's Hall a young man was suddenly seized with a violent trembling all over, and in a few minutes, the sorrow of his heart being enlarged, sunk down to the ground, But we ceased not calling upon God till He raised him up full of "peace and joy in the Holy Ghost."
- 3. Journal, June 16, 1739. Vol. I., p. 204—We met at Fetter Lane to humble ourselves before God and own He had justly withdrawn His spirit from us, by our resting in those little beginnings of sanctification. In that hour we found God with us as at the first. Some fell prostrate upon the ground. Others burst out, as with one consent, into loud praise and thanksgiving.

- 4. Journal, June 22, 1739. Vol. I., p. 205.—In the afternoon I preached at the Fish-Ponds. While I was speaking one before me dropped down as dead, and presently a second and a third. Five others sank down in half an hour, most of whom were in violent agonies.
- 5. Journal, Jan. 13, 1740. Vol. I, p. 260.— While the sacrament was administering, a woman, who had been before much tempted of the devil, sunk down as dead. One could not perceive by any motion of her breast that she breathed, and her pulse was hardly discernable. A strange sort of dissimulation this! I would wish those who think it so only to stop their own breath one hour.
- 6. Journal, June 12, 1742. Vol. I., p. 379.— I preached on the righteousness of the law and the righteousness of faith. While I was speaking, several dropped down as dead; and among the rest such a cry was heard, of sinners groaning for the righteousness of faith, as almost drowned my voice.
- 7. Journal, Nov. 23, 1742. Vol. I., p. 403.—
 There seemed in the evening to be a deeper work in many souls than I had observed before. Many trembled exceedingly; six or seven (both men and women) dropped down as dead; some cried unto God out of the deep; others would have cried, but their voice was lost.
- 8. Journal, Sept. 3, 1743. Vol. I., p. 430.—At seven I met the society at St. Ives, where two women, who came from Penzance, fell down as dead, and soon after cried out, in the bitterness of their souls. But we continued to cry to

God in their behalf, till He put a new song in their mouths.

9. Letter from Ireland.—Tyrrell's Pass, July 24, 1749.—"DEAR SIR,—While I was meeting the society (at Athlone) the governess of Mr. S—'s children was struck to the ground, and in a short time filled with 'peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.'" "The same fire is kindled at Portarlington. I went there the next Sunday after you. One then found a sense of God's pardoning love; and last Saturday in the society some cried out, and some fell to the ground, three of whom found peace to their souls."

10. Journal, May 27, 1759. Vol. II., p. 487.—
"A man of Wybersley, a Nathanael indeed, was so filled with the love of God during morning prayer, that he dropped down, and lay as one dead for two hours. He had been so filled with love all the week before, that he was often for a time unable to work."

II. Journal, July, 15, 1759. Vol. II., p. 405.—
I began reading to the society an account of the late work of God at Everton; but I could not get through. At first there were only silent tears on every side; but it was not long before several were unable to refrain from weeping aloud. And quickly a stout young man dropped down, and roared as in the agonies of death. I did not attempt to read any further, but began wrestling with God in prayer. We continued herein till near nine o'clock. What a day of jubilee was this!

12. Journal, July, 1759. Vol. II., p. 497.— I discoursed also with Ann Thorn, who told me of much heaviness following the visions with which she had been favored; but said she was at intervals visited still with such overpowering love and joy, especially at the Lord's Supper, that she often lay in a trance for many hours.

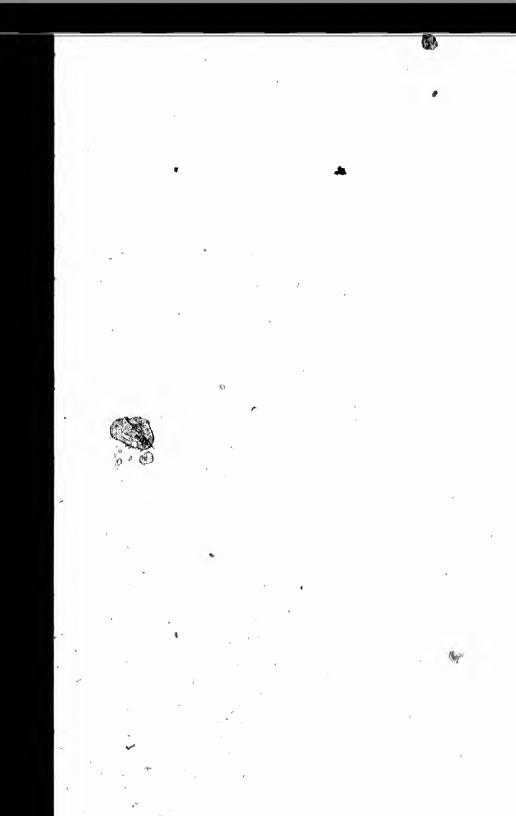
I omitted the rejoicing of believers, because of their number, and the frequency thereof, though their manner was strange; some of them being quite overpowered with divine love; and only showing enough of natural life to let us know they were overwhelmed with joy and life eternal. Some continued long as if they were dead, but with a calm sweetness in their looks. I saw one who lay two or three hours in the open air, and being then carried into the house, continued insensible another hour, as if actually dead. The first sign of life she showed was a rapture of praise intermixed with a small joyous laughter.

I talked largely with Ann Thorn and two others, who had been several times in trances at they all agreed in was, (1) That when they went away, as they termed it, it was always at the time they were fullest of the love of God. (2) That it was always at the time they were fullest of the love of God. (2) That it was always at the time they were fullest of the love of God. (2) That it was always at the time they were fullest of the love of God. (2) That it was always at the time they were fullest of the love of God. (2) That it was always at the time they were fullest of the love of God. (2) That it was always at the time they were some exceptions; but in general, from that moment, they were in another world, knowing nothing of what was done or said by all that were round about them.

15. Journal, Aug. 28, 1759. Vol. II., p. 511.
—I rode on to Mr. Berridge's, at Everton. I

preached on these words in the Second Lesson, "We know that we are of God." One sunk down, and another, and another. Some cried aloud in agony of prayer.

- 16. Journal, Nov. 26, 1759. Vol. II., p. 520. —In the evening Mr. B. returned from preaching before the University. In the midst of the sermon, he informed me, one person cried out aloud, but was silent in a few moments. Several dropped down, but made no noise; and the whole congregation, young and old, behaved with seriousness.
- 17. Journal, March 4, 1761.—I was scarce come into the room where a few believers were met together, when one began to tremble exceedingly, and soon after sunk to the floor. After a violent struggle, she burst out into prayer, which was quickly changed into praise. She then declared, "The Lamb of God has taken away all my sins." She spoke many strong words to the same effect, rejoicing with joy unspeakable.
- 18. Journal, July 29, 1762.—Three days after he writes: "The case of Mr. T. is no less remarkable. He had been a notorious sinner. He was deeply wounded two months since. Ten days ago, on a Friday, God spake peace to his soul. The Sunday following, after a violent struggle, he sunk down as dead. He was cold as clay. After about ten minutes he came to himself, and cried, 'A new heart, a new heart.' He said he felt himself than instant emptied of sin, and filled with God. Bro. B., likewise,



had been justified but a few days before God gave him purity of heart."

- 19. Journal, April 4, 1764. Vol. III., p. 165.

 —In the evening the mayor and all the gentry of the town were present; and so was our Lord in an uncommon manner. Some dropped down as dead; but, after awhile, rejoiced with joy unspeakable.
- 20. Journal, Sept. 29, 1770. Vol. III., p. 417.

 —About nine, Diana went into her room and prayed, partly alone, partly with Betty. About ten (as Betty was praying), her strength was quite spent; and she sank down as dead. She lay so for some minutes, while the other prayed on; but then suddenly started up, praising God with all her might, and rejoicing with joy unspeakable.
- 176.—When a few of the society were met together, the power of God came mightily upon them. Some fell to the ground; some cried aloud for mercy; some rejoiced with joy unspeakable.
- 22. Journal, Sept. 10, 1784. Vol. IV., p. 288.—I met the society. They contained themselves pretty well during the exhortation; but when I began to pray, the flame broke out. Many cried aloud, many sank to the ground, many trembled exceedingly; but all seemed to be quite athirst for God, and penetrated by the presence of His power.
- danger is to regard them too little, to condemn

them altogether; to imagine they had nothing of God in them, and were an hindrance to the work. Whereas the truth is, (1) God suddenly and strongly convinced many that they were lost sinners; the natural consequence whereof were sudden outcries and strong bodily convulsions. (2) To strengthen and encourage them that believed, and to make His work more apparent, He favored several of them with divine dreams, others with trances and visions. (3) In some of these instances, after a time, nature mixed with grace. (4) Satan likewise mimicked this work of God, in order to discredit the whole work. And yet it is not wise to give up this part, any more than to give up the whole. At first it was, doubtless, wholly from God. It is partly so at this day; and He will enable us to discern how far, in every case, the work is pure, and where it mixes or degenerates.

SHOUTING.

- I. Journal, Oct. 25, 1741. Vol. I., p. 343.—I got to Kingswood by two. I remember nothing like it for months. A cry was heard from one end of the congregation to the other; not of grief, but of overflowing joy and love.
- 2. Journal, March 12, 1742. Vol. I., p. 363.— Our Lord was gloriously present with us at the watch-night; so that my voice was lost in the cries of the people. After midnight, about an hundred of us walked home together, singing and rejoicing and praising God.

- 3. Journal, Sept. 23, 1742. Vol. I., p. 398.—In the evening, almost as soon as I began to pray in the society, a voice of lamentation and bitter mourning was heard from the whole congregation; but in awhile, loud thanksgivings were mixed therewith, which in a short space spread over all; so that nothing was to be heard on every side but, "Praise to God and the Lamb for ever and ever."
- 4. Journal, July 2, 1747. Vol. II., p. 62.—I had a large congregation in the evening, among whom two or three roared for the disquietness of their heart. Sunday, 5.—It was more difficult to be heard in meeting the society, amidst the cries of those, on the one hand, who were pierced through as with a sword, and of those, on the other, who were filled with joy unspeakable.
- 5. Journal, March 6, 1748. Vol. II., p. 87.—I have not seen a people so deeply affected since we came to Anglesey; their cries and tears continued a long time without any intermission.
- 6. Journal, March 8, 1748. Vol. II., p. 88.—We hired horses here, and rode to Dublin. My brother was meeting the society. It was some time before my voice could be heard for the noise of the people, shouting and praising God.
- 7. Journal, June 20, 1749. Vol. II., p. 140.

 —I then met the society, when one, and another, and another cried aloud for mercy. We called upon God till several of them found mercy, and praised Him with a good courage.
- 8. Journal, June 26, 1749. Vol. II., p. 141.
 —We had a blessed opportunity at Mount

Mellick in the evening, while I was explaining the covenant God hath made with us. The same spirit continued with us at the meeting of the society, so that my voice could not be heard for the voice of those who cried for mercy, or praised the God of their salvation.

- 9. Journal, July 4, 1749. Vol. II., p. 142.—Almost every person who was present at the meeting of the society appeared to be broken in pieces. A cry went up on every side till Joseph Fry broke out into prayer. It was not long before praise and prayer were mixed together; and shortly after prayer was swallowed up in the voice of praise and thanksgiving.
- The man of the house had fetched his mother from a considerable distance. She had never heard a Methodist preacher before. She was soon cut to the heart, and cried out aloud. One behind her bid her fall upon her knees, which she presently did, and the whole house was as in one cry. I broke off my discourse and began to pray, which I continued till I was so spent I could hardly speak. I went out to take a little breath, and came in again.
- It found the spirit of the people while I was preaching, but much more in examining the society. Four or five times I was stopped short, and could not go on, being not able to speak; particularly when I was talking with a child, about nine years old, whose words astonished all that heard. The same spirit we found in prayer, so that my voice was well nigh lost among the various cries of the people.

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- 12. Journal, July 11, 1750. Vol. II., p. 200.

 There were few dry eyes among them. Some would have sunk to the ground, had not others supported them; and none seemed more affected than Mrs. N. herself. There was the same spirit in the evening. Many cried out aloud, and all received the word with the deepest attention.
- Thence we hastened to Camelford, where a preached in the main street; the rain poured down all the time. But that never drove the congregation away, nor hindered the blessing of God. Many were in tears, and some could not help crying aloud, both during the preaching and the meeting of the society.
- 14. Journal, June 18, 1756. Vol. II., p. 372.

 —In examining the society I was obliged to pause several times. The words of the plain, honest people came with so much weight, as frequently to stop me for awhile, and raise a general cry among the hearers.
- 15. Journal, Sept. 20, 1757. Vol. II., p. 426.

 —At six in the evening I reached Bezou, and began preaching immediately. A young man was cut to the heart, and cried aloud, then another, and another, till my voice was quite lost.
- 16. Journal, July 30, 1758. Vol. II., p. 454.

 —I began meeting the children in the afternoon, though with little hopes of doing them good. But I had not spoke long on our natural state before many of them were in tears, and five or six so affected that they could not refrain from

crying aloud to God. When I began to pray their cries increased so that my voice was soon lost.

- 17. Journal, Dec. 25, 1758. Vol. II., p. 465.

 —Our service began in the Foundry at four; in the Tabernacle at eight. God was now specially pleased to make bare His arm. There was a great cry among the people. Stony hearts were broke; many mourners comforted; many believers strengthened.
- 18. Journal, July 22, 1759. Vol. II., p. 506.

 The church was quite filled, and hundreds were without. And now the arrows of God flew abroad. The inexpressible groans, the lamenting, praying, roaring, were so loud, almost without intermission, that we who stood without could scarce help thinking all in the church were cut to the heart. But, upon enquiry, we found about two hundred persons, chiefly men, cried aloud for mercy, but many more were affected, perhaps as deeply, though in a calmer way.
- 19. Journal, Aug. 5, 1759. Vol. II., p. 508.

 —During the prayers, as also during the sermon and the administration of the sacrament, a few persons cried aloud, but it was not from sorrow or fear, but love and joy. The same I observed in several parts of the afternoon service.
- 20. Journal, Jan. 6, 1762. Vol. III., p. 78.—After speaking a few words I went to prayer. A cry began, and soon spread through the whole company, so that my voice was lost. Two seemed to be distressed above all the rest. We continued wrestling with God till one of them

had a good hope, and the other was "filled with joy and peace in believing."

A murmur ran through the whole people, and many of them were in tears. This concern increased as I went on; so that none appeared to be unmoved. One just by me cried with a bitter cry; but in a short time she shouted for joy. So did several others, so that it was not easy to tell whether more were wounded or comforted.

22. Journal, March 27, 1762. Vol. III., p. 81.

—I heard a large account of the children near Lawford's Gate, which has made so much noise here. The facts are too glaring to be denied. But how are they to be accounted for? By natural or supernatural agency; contend who list about this.

Nine of the children followed me, who said they were determined to "flee from the wrath to come." I exhorted them never to rest till they found peace with God; and then sung and prayed. The power of God came down in so wonderful a manner, that my voice was drowned by their cries. I then prayed (next day), and the Lord poured out His Spirit as the day before, so that, in a few minutes, my voice could not be heard amidst their cries and groans.

In the evening I preached on "Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it." And, indeed, God confirmed His word. There was a cry on every side, but not like that of last night. This did not dampen but quickened the rest.

- 25. Journal, Aug. 21, 1774. Vol. IV. p. 26—At nine I began the service at St. David's, and concluded a little before twelve. It was a good time. The power of the Lord was unusually present, both to wound and to heal. Many were constrained to cry, while others were filled with speechless awe and silent love.
- 26. Journal, Sept. 1, 1774. Vol. IV., p. 27.— When the people here were as roaring lions we had all the ground to ourselves; now they are become lambs, Mr. S—b and his friends step in and take true pains to make a rent in the society.
- 27. Journal, Feb. 5, 1786. Vol. IV., p. 326.

 —I broke out into prayer. The power of God came mightily upon us, and there was a general cry. But the voice of two persons prevailed over all the rest—one praying and the other shrieking as in the agonies of death. God relieved the former in a few minutes; the other, not till evening.
- 28. Journal, May 29, 1787. Vol. IV., p. 378.—
 While I was explaining, "God has given unto us His Holy Spirit," He was indeed poured out in a wonderful manner. Tears of joy, and cries were heard on every side, only so far surpressed as not to drown my voice.
- 29. "Short History of the People called Methodists." Vol. XIII., p. 374.—On Saturday night we met at six, and three of us sung and prayed; but before the third had done his voice could not be heard for the cries of the people. Seven of these soon arose blessing and praising God, and went about encouraging others. Many

hardened sinners were much affected thereby, and began to cry as loud as they had done; so that we had nothing to do but to stand and see the wonderful work of God. All this time many were crying for mercy. Among these were four young men who remained on their knees for five hours together.

LAUGHING.

- I. Journal, July 29, 1759. Vol. II., p. 497.—Patty Jenkins was so overwhelmed with the love of God that she sunk down, and appeared as one in a pleasant sleep, only with her eyes open; yet she had often just strength to utter, with a low voice, ejaculations of joy and praise; but no words coming up to what she felt, she frequently laughed while she saw His glory.
- 2. Journal, April 5, 1782. Vol. IV., p. 224.—Being then asked to visit a dying woman, I no sooner entered the room, than both she and her companions were in such an emotion as I have seldom seen. Some laughed; some cried; all were so transported that they could hardly speak. O how much better is it to go to the poor, than to the rich; and to the house of mourning, than to the house of feasting!

OPPOSITION TO NOISE.

- 1. Journal, April 30, 1739. Vol. I., p. 189.— We understood that many were offended at the cries of those on whom the power of God came; among whom was a physician, who was much afraid there might be fraud or imposture in the case. To-day, one whom he had known many years was the first (while I was preaching in Newgate) who broke out "into strong cries and tears." He could hardly believe his own eyes and ears. He went and stood close to her, and observed every symptom, till great drops of sweat ran down her face, and all her bones shook. He then knew not what to think, being clearly convinced it was not fraud, nor yet any natural disorder. But when both her soul and body were healed in a moment, he acknowledged the finger of God. Tuesday, May 1.—Many were offended again, and, indeed, much more than before.

next who dropped down, and lost her senses in a moment.

- 3. Journal, July 30, 1739. Vol. I., p. 213.—
 One of these had been remarkably zealous against those that cried out and made a noise; being sure that any of them might help it if they would. And the same opinion she was in still, till the moment she was struck through, as with a sword, and fell trembling to the ground.
- 4. Journal, Dec. 4, 1739. Vol. I., p. 252.—
 I was violently attacked by some who were exceedingly angry at those who cried out so; "being sure" they said "it was all a cheat, and that any one might help crying out, if he would." J. Bl. was one of those who was sure of this. About eight the next morning, while he was alone in his chamber, at private prayer, so horrible a dread overwhelmed him, that he began crying out with all his might. All the family were alarmed. Several of them came running up into his chamber, but he cried out so much the more, till his breath was utterly spent.
- 5. Wesley's plain account. Vol. XI., p. 301.
 Question.—Are we not apt to have a secret distaste to any who say they are saved from all sin?

Answer.—It is very possible we may, and that upon several grounds; partly from a concern for the good of souls, who may be hurt if these are not what they profess; partly from a kind of implicit envy at those who speak of higher attainments than our own; and partly from our own natural slowness and unreadiness of heart to believe the works of God.

- 6. Journal, July 19, 1757. Vol. II., p. 418.— Toward the conclusion of my sermon, the person with whom I lodged was much offended at one who sunk down and cried aloud for mercy. Herself dropped down next and cried as loud as her; so did several others quickly after.
- 7. Journal, May 30, 1759. Vol. II., p. 486.— There were three farmers, in these several villages, who violently set themselves to oppose it. And for a time they kept many from going to hear. But all three died in about a month.
- 8. Journal, July 19, 1759. Vol. II., p. 505.— The only unpolished part of the audience were a few gentlemen on horseback. They were much offended at the cries of those in conviction but much more at the rejoicing of others, even to laughter.
- 9. Journal, July, 1762. Vol. III., p. 404.—We begin now to meet with opposition from every quarter. Some say this is rank enthusiasm; others, that it is either a cheat, or mere pride; others that it is a new thing, and that they can find no such thing in the Bible.
- 10. Journal, Oct. 16, 1762. Vol. III., p. 127.— We have great opposition on every side. Nature, the world, and the devil, will never be reconciled to Christian Perfection.
- II. Journal, Nov. 30, 1784. Vol. IV., p. 293.—
 I visited my old friends at Bedford; but found Mr. Hill was gone to rest, and Mr. Parker was just quivering on the verge of life. However I rejoiced to find him clearly possessed of that perfect love which he had so long opposed.

