
METHODIST SOURCES, LAKE JUNALUSKA

*By the Rev. ELMER T. CLARK**

Our library is devoted entirely to Methodist materials. We do have a great many inquiries for genealogical data from persons whose ancestors were Methodist preachers. Our librarian always runs down these inquiries and makes an appropriate reply.

I should say that it is nearly always necessary for us to know the date of the death of the person about whom inquiry is being made. Memoirs with biographical sketches were published in the Minutes of the Conference, and we must rely on these sketches for information.

Far more often than otherwise we cannot locate the subject. This is due to the fact that memoirs were not published unless the subject was a member of the conference at the time of death. In the early period most of those who were preachers at one time or another had to "locate" or drop out of the ranks of travelling preachers who were members of the conference because of marriage or other considerations, and there were no memoirs in such cases. A complete index of memoirs has been compiled by Miss Elizabeth Hughey, the librarian of the Methodist Publishing House at Nashville, Tennessee. She went back and picked up all those who dropped out of the conference, but she has on such persons only the date of the beginning of their ministry and the date when they dropped out of the conference, without any biographical details.

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