

The  
Garden  
of  
Methodism

By

E. C. HALLMAN

*President of the Peninsula Conference Historical Society  
President of the Northeastern Jurisdiction Association of Historical Societies  
Vice President of the American Methodist Historical Society  
Author of a Brief History of the Wilmington Conference, Methodism in  
Delaware, Privateer, Pirates and the Peninsula,  
The Web of Life, Etc.*

"He that writes  
Or makes a feast, more certainly invites  
His judges than his friends; there's not a guest  
But will find something wanting or ill-drest."  
SIR R. HOWARD.

*Published at the request of the*  
PENINSULA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

County, Delaware.  
November 30, 1780.  
4, 1780. Quarterly

Kent County, Dela-  
00.

Preaches there No-  
1, 1789; October 13,

er and Back Creek)  
April 10, 1772; No-

There were favor-  
ompton's, Bassett's,

bridge Ferry, Talbot  
1786; November 22,  
December 12, 1790;

September 19, 1790;

t County, Delaware.  
oyer, and the society

July 16, 1778; Visits  
ruary 7, 1779; June

November 7, 1779;  
er 24, 1780.

County, Delaware.

Preaches April 25,

to location.—Visits  
July 12, 1796; June

Snow Hill, so that  
uld he mean Bowen?

Dines there April 20,

Delaware. About five  
1779; November 28,

r 1, 1779; November

home, for he was a  
is is between Laurel,  
ly 23, 1779; October

Queen Annes County,  
nfiscated by Colonial  
y in turn gave it to  
ine Bridges. Preach-

id. See Ferrells for  
e May 29, 1800.

aches April 18, 1813.

Visits and preaches

y called Mt. Pleasant.

Maryland. Preaches

; Quarterly Meeting

Delaware. It looks as

re December 8, 1778;

Broadkiltown—He must mean Milton, Sussex County, Delaware. It is the only town on the Broadkilt River. Preaches there April 8, 1806 and June 8, 1806.

Brooks—Lived in Middletown, Delaware. Dines May 15, 1811.

Brown Chapel—This is the Bethel Chapel in North West Fork Hundred, Sussex County, Delaware. It gets its name Brown from White Brown, one of its founders. Preaches November 10, 1785. Asbury advised the folks, because of crop failures, to go West to Ohio. Many did so. November 14, 1789; April 2, 1806. "The work of God revives; the chapel will soon be finished. The second generation are filling the house, and joining their laborers to what myself and their fathers did in the days of their fathers." Preaches April 18, 1813.

Brown, Eccleston—Lived in Dorchester County, Maryland, somewhere near Hurlock. Visits April 17, 1813.

Brown, John—Lived in or very near Centreville, Maryland. Dines with April 9, 1811.

Brown, White—Lived in North West Fork, Sussex County, Delaware. A nephew of Judge White. Later he moved to Ohio and became one of the pillars of Methodism in that State. Preaches there August 16, 1778; October 11, 12, 22, 1779. During the first of October he plans the Bethel Chapel. When he returns on the 22, he lays out the grounds. Preaches January 21, 1780; Lodges March 11, 1780.

Brown, William—Lived between Trappe and Eunnalls Ferry, Talbot County, Maryland. Dines May 20, 1801; Visits April 16, 1802 and April 27, 1805.

Bucks Tavern—Still stands at the southern approach to the bridge over the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal at Summit Bridge, New Castle County, Delaware. Secures his trunk and box of books, December 7, 1772; Visits there October 8, 1798.

Buckingham—This is Berlin, Maryland. A Buckingham Presbyterian Church was one of the land marks of that section at the time he calls the place by that name. Visits there October 26, 1790.

Burkhead, Col.—Lived in Talbot County, Maryland, somewhere in the neighborhood of Trappe. Lodges there December 5, 1786.

Burneston, William—Had his home near Chestertown, Maryland. Lodges April 7, 1811.

Burrsville—Present Town of in the County of Caroline. Preaches Mr. Hardisty's funeral, July 27, 1779.

Burgess, Daniel—Kent County, Maryland. Dines April 8, 1811.

Burton, William—Millington, Maryland. (Head of Chester) Lodges there April 7, 1811.

Callahan, Edward—Lived between Rising Sun and Magnolia, Kent County, Delaware. Preaches November 16, 1779.

Calloways—Lived southwest of Laurel, Delaware. Preaches July 5, 1778; February 27, 1778 and April 6, 7, 1780.

Cambridge—Town of in Dorchester County, Maryland. Visits there October 12, 1783; October 14, 1784; Preaches November 5, 1786; November 18, 1787; Quarterly Meeting in barn May 17, 1799; Preaches in Court House May 21, 1801. "Had a large and well behaved congregation." Preaches in Chapel April 18, 1802. "Our new Chapel is two stories high; well planned and neatly finished." May 25, 1803; March 30, 1806; Visits March 18, 1807; Preaches March 18, 1807; Preaches April 17, 1810; Visits April 15, 1813.

Camden—Town of in Kent County, Delaware. Visits September 15, 1792. "To Dr. Barrett, a true son of a worthy father, we are chiefly indebted for a neat economical meeting house." Speaks briefly in Chapel April 12, 1815.

Cannan, John—Lived near Chesapeake City on Bohemia Manor or Back Creek, Cecil County, Maryland. Lodges May 27, 1800; Dines April 18, 1803; Preaches March 22, 1809; Lodges April 2, 1811.

Cannon, John—Near Chapel Branch, close to Seaford, Delaware. Meets the class February 26, 1778; Preaches October 11, 1779; March 13, 1780.

non, J. Rust Cannon and William Davis, trustees. A later deed calls the church Bochim. This first chapel was erected with the dual idea of being both school and church. St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church, located in Seaford, is a child of this organization. The old building was eventually purchased by the Seaford Methodist Protestant Church and moved into town and served them for a home for several years. This was in 1862.

**Beaver Dam Methodist Protestant Church**, Broad Kiln Hundred, was organized in 1844 and the church was built in the same year. The land upon which the church was erected was given by Barkley Wilson. They have built two other churches since then, namely, in 1885 at a cost of \$1,200, and in 1928, they moved the Conway church building and added a Sunday School building at a cost of \$8,174. In 1901, the name was changed to Harbeson Methodist Protestant Church. So far as the records reveal the only improvement for the buildings was in 1923 at which time they spent \$1,800.

**Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church (Sailors' Bethel)**, is located in the town of Bethel, formally called Lewistown, in the Broad Creek Hundred. This is a child of Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church which was located about a mile northeast of the town. Rev. A. T. Melvin led the enterprise of erecting Sailor's Bethel. It was erected in 1855. At a cost of \$4,125, they built their second church in 1884. Extensive improvements are underway at this particular time, the estimated cost of which is \$3,500.

**Bethel Methodist Protestant Church** in the village of Bethel was built in 1858, and improved in 1906. Its local name being St. John's. Unable to continue as an organization, they sold it a few years ago, to Sailor's Bethel and is now used as a Social Hall.

**Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church**, Gumborough Hundred, was first built in 1841. It was rebuilt twice, once in 1873 and again in 1893.

**Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church.** See Lewes.

**Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church** in Seaford Hundred, Northwest Fork, was organized by Bishop Francis Asbury in 1778. It is the famous White Brown Chapel that was the mission station for Methodism for many miles around. The pioneer Methodist preachers made it famous. It is the second earliest Methodist society within the County, the other being the Lewes congregation. For many years the church went by the name of Brown's Chapel. Bishop Asbury planned the chapel, solicited funds for its erection, and was always interested in its success. The first building was erected in 1781, but was not completed until 1806, when a series of crop failures occurred. Bishop Asbury advised them to migrate to Ohio. White Brown, a nephew of Judge Edward White after whom he was named, was among those that moved to Ohio and he became an outstanding figure in Methodism in that state. A new church was erected in 1894. Every five years the Kinder-Noble family reunion is held in this church. Thomas Kinder, a former trustee, when he died, endowed the church, and left large bequests to other churches and the Conference Claimants Funds.

**Bethel Church** located in the town of Ocean View, formerly worshipped with the Roxana Congregation. The roads being long and sandy, the Ocean View Methodists decided they needed a church of their own and built such in 1885, at a cost of \$4,100. The second church built by this society was in 1899 at a cost of \$3,000. They improved the church in 1922 and built the addition to the church which is used as a Sunday School building and a community house combined, in 1926. They have raised money for a pipe organ but up to now it has not been installed.

**Bethany Methodist Episcopal Church** at Lowe's Cross Roads, Little Creek Hundred, is the society that moved from Old Jones's Methodist Church. When Bethany was built in 1917, Jones's Church ceased to function, except for their annual anniversary service.