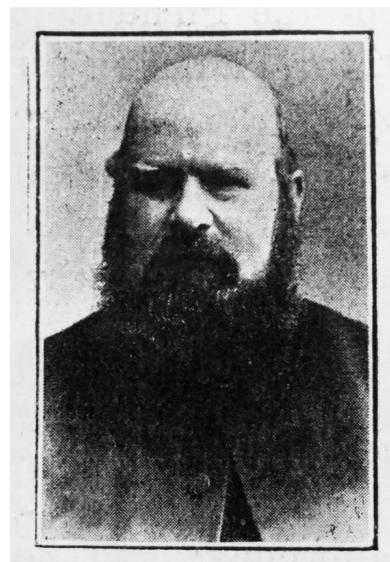


Rev. James S. Nunn

Transcription of Obituary in the Primitive Methodist Magazine by Henry Carden

James S. Nunn was born at Wortham Brook, Suffolk, in the Diss Station, on March 21st, 1838, and was one of the many given to the Ministry of our Church as the fruit of our work in the villages of East Anglia. He was converted at the age of eleven; at thirteen he took an active part in cottage prayer meetings in the village, was soon placed on the preachers' plan, and at the age of twenty-two called into the ranks of the ministry.



His first appointment was the Gravesend Mission. Gravesend Mission at that time extended into Essex, and embraced part of what has since become the Grays and Romford Circuit. Mr. Nunn was located on the Grays side. While on this station he formed the acquaintance of the young lady who afterwards became his wife, and the mother of his five girls, but whose removal, while her children were yet young, placed upon him a burden of care and anxiety that can only be realised by one who has experienced such a trial. From Gravesend, Mr. Nunn was removed to the extensive mission in Essex which was under the superintendency of the Rev. John Guy, who had four young men under him. In addition to Mr. Nunn, the Rev. John D. Dinnick and Joseph Sheale were among his colleagues at that time. Mr. Sheale, who now is the only survivor, speaks most appreciatively of Mr. Nunn as a minister and colleague.

He afterwards travelled on the following stations, - Silchester, Yeovil, Exmouth, Hoyland, Helmsley, Middleham, Thirsk, on which station he lost his wife; Whitchurch, Leek, Winster, Oakham, Tadcaster and Truro. During his term on the Oakham Station he had a serious illness which left him much debilitated, and at the Conference of 1898 he was superannuated.

As a minister he was truly conscientious, and much esteemed by his people. He was tenderhearted, truly sympathetic, and moved amongst his people as a true minister of Jesus Christ. He was genial and homely, and yet always maintained the dignity of his office. His retiring disposition prevented him from becoming much known beyond his own circuits, but there he gave his best, and his ministry has been blessed to many. Being in the County of Cornwall at the time of his superannuation he located at Cheesewring Railway in the Liskeard Station, receiving a small allowance from the Missionary Committee to give special attention to the cause there.

It was very low, and for some time he worked almost alone both in the Chapel and Sunday School. By persistent service he was rewarded by seeing the Society increased. In 1905 a gracious revival was experienced, which spread through the village, and a number were brought to Christ, amongst whom were several who refer to Mr. Nunn's influence and service as leading to that blessed result. The revival resuscitated the class meeting of which Mr. Nunn was the leader. For this work he had a special gift, and the happy seasons spent in Christian fellowship under his very helpful leadership, will long remain as a precious memory to those who enjoyed it.

His removal was a great loss to this Society. Failing health at length necessitated cessation from the active service of the Church Militant, and after three months of gradual weakening and suffering, borne with Christian patience and resignation, on January 17th, 1907, he passed peacefully away to the Homeland.

His remains were laid to rest in the St. Cleer Cemetery, the funeral being attended by all the members of the Society, and by the children of the Sunday School of which the deceased was superintendent. A widow and five daughters mourn his loss, but to them his life will be a precious and inspiring memory, and his removal another strong attraction heavenward. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

References

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