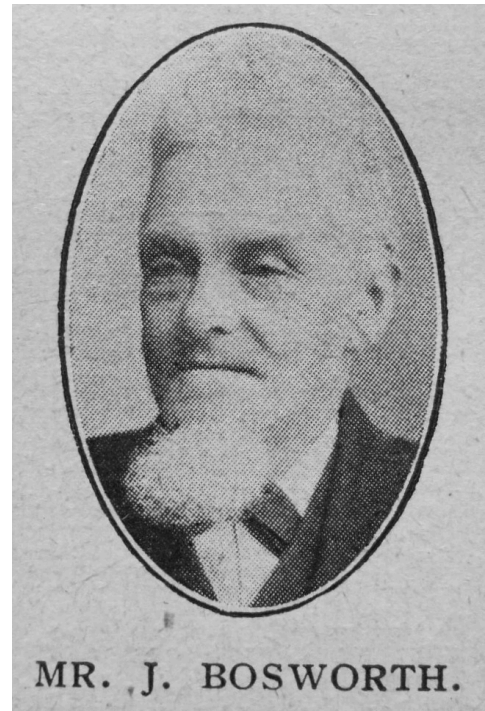


James Bosworth

Transcription of obituary published in the Primitive Methodist Magazine by David Cooke

Mr. James Bosworth was called to the higher service after a long and trying illness borne with a faith and fortitude worthy of the man. A local preacher of fifty-four years standing, James Bosworth performed so many useful functions that his loss is irreparable. He demonstrated that environment is not omnipotent. His royal life rose above circumstances and found expression in a noble service for God and humanity. He impressed men with his magnificent human qualities, and it was always the human values in a cause that captured him.

He was a Liberal in politics, not for reasons doctrinaire, but because he was convinced it was a movement that made for the emancipation of the common man. He was a member of the Board of Guardians because of the irresistible appeal of the aged poor. He was in the noblest sense the village priest, carrying in his heart the needs and struggles and aspirations of his people, and by his vicarious services he became the highway over which they walked into a fuller life.



Although a working man until the end of his days one never thought of him in terms of social caste. Without patronage or servility he counted among his friends some of the poorest and some that were wealthy. He had a native grace and dignity, a mental strength and integrity that marked him off as one of God's gentlemen. In his preaching he was passionately evangelical, and he brought to the office qualities of heart and mind that made him welcome in every pulpit he occupied. The people felt the power of a gracious personality as he talked to them of ultimate things.

His funeral service, held in the Anstey Primitive Methodist Church, was a most representative gathering. Men of every political party and religious sect found common ground in paying a reverent tribute to a strong and lofty man. The service was conducted by Rev. W. Carrier, assisted by Revs. W. Tootell, G.P. Clarke, W. Faid and Mr. Albert Hickling.

References

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