

## Elijah Jennings

### Transcription of obituary published in the Primitive Methodist Magazine D.S.

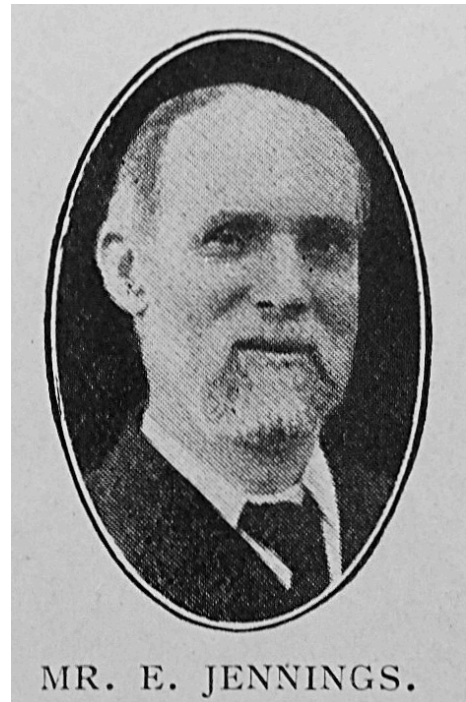
Elijah Jennings was born March 27th, 1842; born anew December 26th, 1856; joined our Church at Alexander Street, Leicester, December 30th, 1856; called home February 12th, 1914. In him Christian life and service began simultaneously. While a young man he became class leader, local preacher and Sunday school worker. Out of his large class of two hundred and fifty other classes were formed. His class of over one hundred still lives and thrives. He was known far and wide as an enthusiastic Sunday school superintendent. His school at one time had over fourteen hundred scholars, to each of whom he sent a letter of greeting on the birthday. He wrote 17,500 such letters.

His zeal consumed him. In his Journal, January 25th, 1875, is this entry:— “Attended seven o’clock prayer meeting. At 7.40 went to a prayer meeting in a booth in Humberstonegate. School at 9.30. Preaching service at 10.45. Mr. Parr. Good time. School at 1.30. Read a paper on “Eternal Rewards.” Went to Red Cross Street Mission between 5 and 6. Addressed the people there. Preaching service at 6. Mr. Parr. Good time. Afterwards joined the Lord’s people at the Sacramental service, which was followed by a prayer meeting.”

He not only cultivated the old enclosure, but also broke up new ground. When a site was purchased for Aylestone Park Church, he took his Bible class there on Sunday mornings at seven o’clock to hold prayer meetings thereon. Under his tactful leadership they were also an effective mission band. Our African work found in him a sympathising friend and an ardent advocate from the commencement in 1870. For years his circuit’s contribution for Africa has been about £100 a year.

He has rendered yeoman service to the town of Leicester on the Council, and had the invitation to be its mayor, which he politely declined, believing he could render better service to his Church otherwise. He used to speak of his Church work in its multifarious branches as “the King’s business.” He rendered valuable service on several Connexional committees, filling for a year the office of Vice-President of Conference.

But the brightest day must have its dusk. The death of his devoted wife was an irreparable loss. Then came the breakdown of his health. The last time he endeavoured to attend the service at Hinckley Road he had to be helped back home. “He walked with God in peace and righteousness and did turn many away from iniquity.”



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#### References

*Primitive Methodist Magazine* 1914/831