

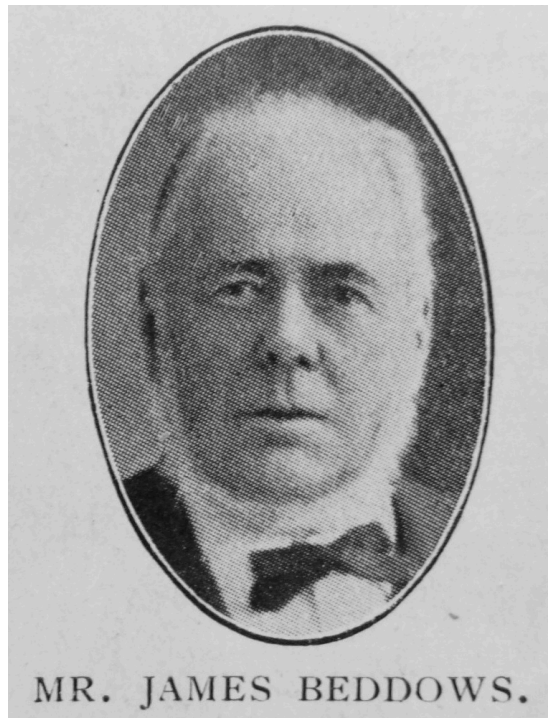
James Beddows

Transcription of obituary published in the Primitive Methodist Magazine by Joseph Odell

A grand egotist with a great right to be so! A man at home to himself, now at home with his Saviour! Possessing stores of knowledge, sound judgment, with self-reliant sagacity, all this was displayed in the sacred functions of religious work and practical Christianity.

Born at Dawley, Salop, 12th February, 1835, at seven years of age he worked in the mines. At nine with his family he removed to Staffs, became a scholar in our Ryecroft Sabbath School, and at nineteen years of age he was a local preacher. This was his sphere pre-eminently. It was not merely "Here is a man!" rather, "This is a man of God with a message to us." That is the abiding impression over the area of the Old Lichfield Circuit.

For over fifty years he efficiently served the pulpits of his circuits. He kept pace by quality; with the claims of smaller circuits, better buildings, higher social conditions, all of which his statesmanship had done much to provide. His was the progressive mind, judicious stewardship and efficient hand. For nearly fifty years he preached thirteen Sundays each quarter. His last sermon was at "New Invention," Bloxwich Circuit, February 23rd, 1913. His theme was 'The kingdom which shall stand for ever.' In that kingdom he had long been at home. All his life had been given to interpret and extend it. On February 27th, 1913, this loyal servant passed away. He was long known as an exponent and also an authority upon our Circuit system and Church progress. Herewith I record the very grateful homage of a vast army of local preachers, because he proved ever a true ornament of that indispensable order of our Church and our divine Lord's cause.



Reference

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