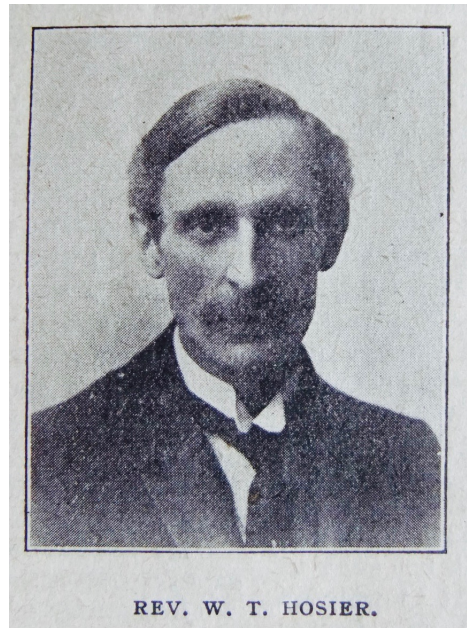


Rev. W.T. Hosier

Transcription of Sketch in the Christian Messenger by the Editor

The Rev. W. T. Hosier.

One of the quietest towns in England to have achieved world fame is Witney in Oxfordshire, and it is a fame associated with comfort and warmth, for it is in Witney that the famous blankets are made. But Primitive Methodism is indebted to Witney for sending into its ministry the subject of this sketch who, converted at sixteen, was put on the Witney plan by the Rev. Thomas Phelps. His first work was as a Mission Van evangelist in the Brinkworth and Swindon district, and he saw scores converted and many weak causes strengthened in the course of it. As further preparatory training Mr. Hosier served in Leicester and Shipley as hired local preacher, and proceeded to Hartley College in time to share in the great simultaneous mission at Failsworth and Oldham, where he had the joy of witnessing over five hundred conversions.



London.

The Sheffield Conference of 1901 stationed Mr. Hosier at the St. George's Hall Mission, where he spent the whole of his probation. He served first under its founder, the Rev. James Flanagan, and then with his successor, the Rev. Joseph Johnson, and for both of these mighty workers the young probationer conceived a deep admiration and affection which time has strengthened. They were crowded and strenuous years, crowned with much success, for scarcely a Sunday passed without conversions, Such was the foundation laid - and what could be finer? - for the work that is called for as a minister of the Primitive Methodist Church.

Cotton and Lace.

Probation ended, and happily married to Miss E. Hole at Witney, Mr. Hosier made a new beginning at Chorley in Lancashire. Here a new Sunday school was built at Standish, and a large sum raised toward the cost. Heywood Circuit followed, still in the land of cotton, and the Bridge Street Church was relighted and decorated, and a fine new Sunday school erected, and a sum of a thousand pounds raised. Six happy years were spent at Long Eaton, where lace-making is the staple industry, and after a year at Nottingham, during which the Forest Road Church was greatly helped, Mr. Hosier returned to London. Here at Holloway a fine piece of work is being wrought out. Collections have been trebled. Dartmouth Park has cleared its debt and raised £140 for repairs. Other churches in the district are aiming at similar ends.

A "Live" Man.

He has been District C.E. Secretary for several years, and is at present President of the North London C.E. Union, but his reading in English literature, sociology and philosophy has been maintained. Greatly interested in dramatic literature, his gifts find expression in recitals, greatly appreciated on many circuits. With such a record and equipment, Mr. Hosier has a great work yet to do.

References

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