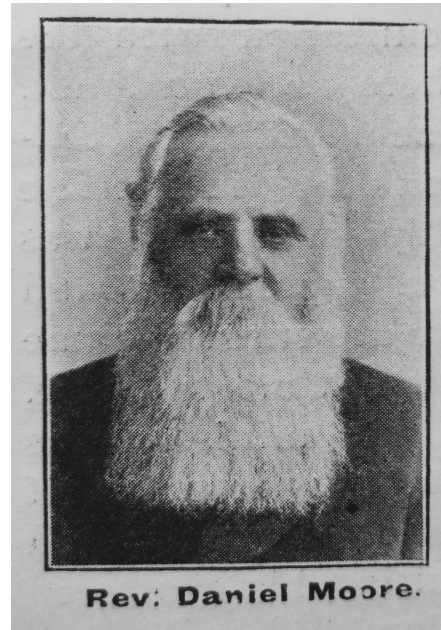


Rev. Daniel Moore

Transcription of Obituary in the Primitive Methodist Magazine by Henry Oliver

The subject of this memoir was a native of Lincolnshire, and was born August 2nd, 1835, at the village of Theddlethorpe in the Louth Circuit, where the first eighteen years of his life were spent. From childhood he had intimate associations with our ministers and the Church. His parents were both members, and his father generously gave the site on which to erect our first chapel at his native place. In this chapel, Daniel was one of the first scholars, and within its walls he was converted to God in the year 1850, under the fervent and evangelical ministry of the now venerable Rev. Henry Woodcock. When about twenty years of age he removed into Yorkshire, to Patrington, then a branch of the Hull 2nd Circuit. He was brought under the direct personal influence of Rev. H. Clarke, then a young man of great spiritual power, who greatly influenced Mr. Moore's life. His name very soon appeared on the plan as a local preacher. Such was his zeal,



his devotion, his sacrifice, his success, and all-consuming passion for soul winning, that it was soon manifest that he had both grace and gifts that marked him for a place in our regular ministry. He only waited the call, and that was not long delayed. The Barnsley Circuit invited him, in September 1858 to labour there, under the judicious superintendency of the late Rev. Robert Smith. It was here he saw hundreds of souls converted to God. The membership of the circuit went up, during the two years and ten months of his ministry there, from 372 to 680; and it may be truly noted that this ministry so signally honoured at the beginning was throughout more or less a successful and soul-saving ministry. The writer very well remembers sitting with him about a year before his removal, when he related to him some of the wonderful revival seasons that occurred in the days of his early ministry. They were remarkable instances. They were days of power equal in manifestation and result to any that are recorded in the history of our Church. The most visibly successful period of his ministry was in connection with the old Leeds District; and here were, no doubt, found his strongest attachments, his tenderest memories. Here was the widest circle of his intimate friendship - where he was most likely best known, appreciated and understood, and where we are sure his name is still, and will be for a long time to come, a sweet perfume. His later ministry was spent in the more southern counties of England, a change the doctors considered would be helpful in recruiting his shattered health. Happily, considerable benefit was secured, and a useful ministry extended. He travelled in the following circuits - exercising a ministry of over forty-three years - Barnsley, Middleham, Malton, Dewsbury, Silsden, Knaresborougli, Sowerby Bridge, Pickering, Scholes, Malton (a second time), York First, Weymouth, London Fourth, Sudbury, Canterbury and Sheerness, and Sittingbourne. In all these circuits, with scarcely an exception, he secured financial, numerical and spiritual prosperity. Although we have not complete records to hand, we have sufficient information that enables us to state that in some of the circuits the progress was very considerable. While at Knaresborough, he grappled with the difficulty of building a chapel at Harrogate, and admirably succeeded. He also purchased the eligible site of land in Monks Road, York, on which has been built

recently a very commodious chapel, called the "John Petty Memorial." All our brother's work was quietly done. In many of his circuits he was greatly helped and encouraged by valuable colleagues, of whom he had excellent things to say, and the good feeling was always reciprocal. The following extracts will show that they held him in highest esteem for his brotherliness and devotion to his work and consideration for them.

Rev. A.J. Bull, an old colleague, writes: "It was a great privilege to labour with him. I found him kind in disposition, untainted by jealousy. Anxious for the advancement of God's cause, never sparing himself. There have been men more brilliant, but none more devoted to the welfare of the Church." Rev. W. L. Spooner, another colleague, says: "He has done good solid work, with a steadiness of step that might put many a more brilliant man to the blush. He also leaves a record of valuable friendships; being friendly he made many friends, and by his unpretentious demeanour has kindled a quiet glow of social influence in many circles, and certain are we that he lives in the tender regards of hundreds of hearts." He also cultivated a very intimate friendship with a large circle of his ministerial brethren, some of whom thus write of him. The Rev. W. Wray (now the late and lamented) almost a life-long friend, writes: "I have known Mr, Moore from his conversion, and believe him to have been one of the most successful soul winners, and his ministry a real blessing to hundreds." The Rev. J.C. Livesey, a very old friend, says: "He was one of the noblest of the earth. A genuine, true, conscientious, self-sacrificing and God honouring Christian, whose reward is sure, and whose honours will be brighter in heaven than ever on earth, because he was better understood by his Lord than by those for whose good he toiled and lived." Rev. W.E. Crombie writes: "His saintly life and ministry have won the cordial admiration and grateful appreciation of all who were privileged to know him." As we read a hundred like communications respecting our dear friend, our conviction was considerably deepened, that it is not exceptional ability and intellectual equipment, but exceptional devotion to Christ's cause that impresses most deeply the memory and heart, and hence the world's conversion will be more surely attained through exceptional goodness than exceptional greatness. Our friend was twice married: first to Alice, the second daughter of the late Rev. Joseph Spoor, and the second time to Miss Cherry, who now mourns his loss. Both were honourable women, affectionate wives, and true help-meets, who cheered and inspired him in the toil and suffering of life. He had a large share of domestic and personal trial, but in it all he was patient, and trustful in his God. His eldest daughter was taken away when she was blossoming into womanhood. Then unexpectedly, the wife of his early years was removed by death, and he was left a widower with six children all needing special motherly care and oversight. A few years later came a sudden break-down - almost an entire collapse of his health - by a paralytic seizure which left him a wreck of his former self. He had all that medical skill, rest, and change could do, but the vigour and elasticity of former times were never regained. He continued to labour for sixteen years after this painful event with considerable success, and occasional flashes of old-time energy and passion, but there were also long intervals of weakness, suffering and depression. He certainly kept to his work for years, when men with less will and love for the work would have naturally sought entire rest. Such were the increasing feebleness and suffering that overtook him at the beginning of 1902, that he reluctantly sought superannuation at the Conference in Hull of that year. His family and friends now cherished fond hopes that with freedom from the care of the churches, change of residence to the quiet and healthy resort of Whitstable, he might partially, at least, recover, and spend a few happy years with his loved ones on this side the river. The All-Wise directed otherwise, and so all hopes were cut off. He never can be said to have rallied. It was evident he was gradually losing strength,

and the end was rapidly approaching. The best medical aid was secured, but no help or relief could be found. Diabetes was most surely to terminate his life, and this termination came on Oct. 24, 1902. The change came in presence of his beloved wife and nearly all the family.

Our dear brother's last utterances gave striking evidence that the simple faith of earlier years had been retained. The certainty of eternal things, which he had so earnestly and long preached to others, was his own at last. In the final moment he exclaimed, "Behold the day breaketh and the shadows flee away. Let me go, I am going to heaven. Can you not see the shining light. It is my Lord, let me go." The words last audible ere the lips were sealed for ever, were: "Eternal life for ever and ever." And so was rounded and finished a rich, beautiful and useful life. In accord with his own wish, he was interred in the quiet cemetery of Canterbury, on Nov. 1st. The following ministers took part in the service: Revs. B. Senior, T.G. Dyke, R.W. Burnett, and G. Welbourne, B.A. The committal service was performed by Rev. E. Newsome, who gave a tender and touching address to a large company who had gathered around the open grave in true sympathy and to manifest esteem for a late minister and true friend. A memorial service was held in Canterbury chapel, when his intimate and beloved friend, the Rev. T. Peatfield, preached the sermon to a large and deeply stirred congregation. It was our privilege for long years to know our departed brother, to have intimate acquaintance and special opportunities of knowing his general tone of soul and trend of life. Our concluding sentences must be these:- That for manly uprightness, Connexional loyalty, for soul-saving passion, for simplicity and strength of faith, for general consistency of life and conduct, for absence of self-seeking, for freedom from jealousy and suspicion, for a "charity that hopeth all things," and for consecration and whole-hearted service to the Master's cause, we have not met one that stood higher than he. Our sincere prayer and hope are that we may join him "beyond the shadows, in the life eternal."

References

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