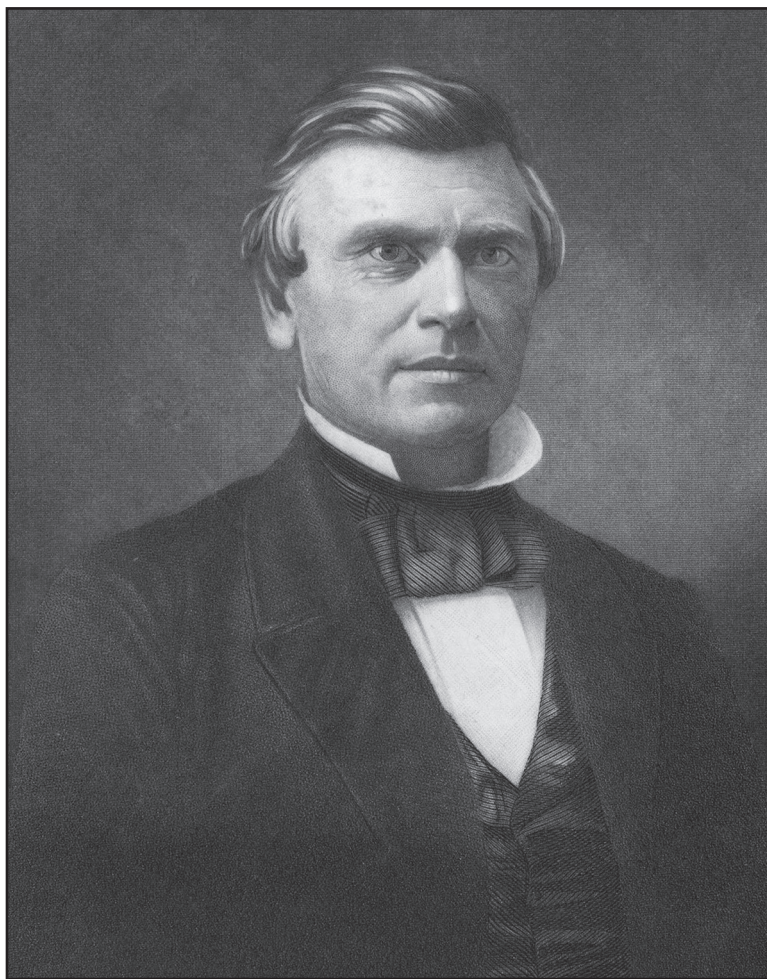


METHODIST HISTORY

October 2014

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Number 1



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Cover: Lithograph of Bishop Matthew Simpson courtesy of the Drew University Methodist Collection, Madison, New Jersey.

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Alfred T. Day III, Editor

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CONTENTS

Contributors	2
Editor's Note	3
 Methodist Abroad: Matthew Simpson and the Emergence of American Methodism as a World Church <i>by Scott Kisker</i>	 4
 Renewal, Reunion, and Revival: Three British Methodist Approaches to "Serving the Present Age" in the 1950s <i>by Martin Wellings</i>	 22
 "A Very Singular Man": Rev. Moses Dissinger of the Evangelical Association <i>by Joseph F. DiPaolo</i>	 41
 <i>Methodist History</i> Statement of Ownership	 62

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EDITOR'S NOTE

What an honor and privilege it is to take the editor's chair for *Methodist History*. I follow in the tradition of two highly-esteemed and effective annotators of this important journal, Drs. Charles Yrigoyen and Robert Williams. Their guiding wisdom and consultation, along with the careful eye of my Executive Assistant, Michelle Merkel-Brunskill, have been invaluable in getting this issue to print.

October's *Methodist History* is a typical thoughtful, diverse offering of scholarship:

Scott Kisker's subject is Bishop Matthew Simpson, one of American Methodism's most powerful and far-reaching figures. His paper, "Methodist Abroad: Matthew Simpson and the Emergence of American Methodism as a World Church," has much to offer both its immediate historical context and the denomination's contemporary experience as a being a global church.

Martin Wellings' paper comes from a member of the worldwide Methodist family. "Renewal, Reunion, and Revival: Three British Methodist Approaches to 'Serving the Present Age' in the 1950s" challenges assumptions of a weakening religious life, citing evidence of revival in the decade and a half after World War II. The paper's exploration and assessment of the church's strategies "to serve the present age," in times of revival or retreat, still speaks to Methodism's engagement with the wider society.

Closer to home, Joe DiPaolo's paper is a character study of nineteenth-century Evangelical Association preacher, Moses Dissinger, "A Very Singular Man" indeed. In addition to the tracing the faith and ministry journey of a Civil War-era preacher who turned pugilism into piety, the paper offers valuable insight into the views of leaders and lay people from an antecedent strain of United Methodist DNA.

Alfred T. Day III