

**COOKE, BISHOP RICHARD J.**

## Methodism

THIS work is indispensable to anyone who wishes to know the judicial action taken by the General Conference and who is without access to the General Conference Journals from the beginning. And even one who has the journals finds Bishop Cooke's work most helpful in enabling him to find readily whether the General Conference has taken action at any time in a similar case.

### BISHOP RICHARD J. COOKE

Born in New York, January 31, 1853. He graduated from East Tennessee Wesleyan University in 1880 and studied a year at the University of Berlin. The University of Tennessee has conferred the degree of D.D. upon him. Bishop Cooke entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1873, and has served as pastor, professor of New Testament exegesis and historical theology, vice-chancellor and acting president of Grant University, editor of Methodist Advocate Journal, and in 1904 was elected book editor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which capacity he served until 1912, when he was elected to the episcopacy. Bishop Cooke has served on important committees of the church and from 1896 until elected to the episcopacy was a member of General Conference. A contributor to the church press and important magazines, Bishop Cooke, who is the author of *The Wingless Hour*, has also written *Doctrine of the Resurrection*, *Reasons for Church Creed*, *The Historic Episcopate*, *Christ and the Critics*, *The Incarnation and Recent Criticism*, etc. Bishop Cooke's address is Helena, Montana.

### THE JUDICIAL DECISIONS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

By  
Bishop R. J.  
Cooke

With  
Introduction by  
James M. Buckley

Introduction to the  
Third Edition by  
HON. HENRY WADE  
ROGERS, Judge of  
the United States  
Circuit Court of  
Appeals, New York  
City

THIRD EDITION,  
REVISED AND  
ENLARGED

Size, 12mo  
(4¼x7¼ inches)  
Pages, xiv+469  
Binding, cloth  
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**Methodism**

**THE  
ITINERANCY:  
ITS POWER  
AND PERIL**

By  
**James A. Hensey**

Size, 12mo  
(4 7/8 x 7 1/2 inches)  
Pages, 286  
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Price, net, \$1.00

**T**HIS is not merely a new history of Methodism's arm of power. It is an interpretation and critique from the inside. Dr. Hensey is a faithful and a fearless critic. In this book one sees the Methodist System at work. It is a book for the layman as well as the preacher. Every Methodist is vitally affected by the Itinerant System and therefore every Methodist should understand that system.

**JAMES A. HENSEY**

Born at Rawlings Station, Allegany County, Maryland, March 5, 1866, and educated at Allegany Seminary, Illinois Wesleyan University, and Drew Theological Seminary. There have been conferred on him the degrees of B.A., Ph.B., B.D., and Ph.D. He served as a student supply for two years in the Baltimore Annual Conference, and in the same capacity and for the same length of time in the Newark Annual Conference. He joined the latter Conference in 1891 and was transferred to the Wyoming Conference in 1905. Dr. Hensey was pastor of Centenary Church, Binghamton, New York, for seven years, and was appointed superintendent of the Binghamton District in 1912. Dr. Hensey is the author of *The District Superintendent—Asset or Liability?*, *Poverty and Preaching: The Truth About It*, and *The Itinerancy: Its Power and Peril*.



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Bishop Richard J. Cooke  
D.D., LL.D.,  
Portland, Ore.

Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions  
170 Avenue, New York

#### Bishop Cooke

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... who once he often spoke of him as best  
representing him — as the best man to suc-  
ceed him in Boston University if he should  
be taken away. We never heard him  
commend so highly and so frequently any  
other student.

— The *New York Times* is responsible  
for the statement that the late Samuel  
M. Bowne, of New York, left an es-  
tate of \$1,976,976. Mrs. Nettie Bowne  
receives by her husband's will \$923,  
249. Many nieces and nephews receive  
legacies. The following institutions re-  
ceive bequests: New York Church Exten-  
sion and Missionary Society, \$49,515

...  
concerning the future of the  
Methodist institutions comes true, Metho-  
dism will rapidly come to a place of vital  
leadership in the thought and moral life  
of the nation.

The speakers were President William A.  
Shanklin, of Wesleyan University, who  
spoke on the subject, "The Christian  
College in American Education." Hon.  
R. A. Booth, of Eugene, Oregon, in dis-  
cussing the question, "Why the Denomi-  
national College?" urged laymen to give  
liberally to maintain our institutions. The  
fact that the speaker has already given  
his fortune to this





BISHOP RICHARD JOSEPH COOKE.

Richard Joseph Cooke is a New Yorker by birth, under sixty years of age, college-trained, a preacher since 1873, an educator, an Advocate editor, an author and general book editor since 1904. He is a polished writer. His sentences sparkle. There is force in his elevated literary style. His speech is vehement. His eye, his look, his manner all bespeak animation. He will not be found in the background anywhere. He received a large vote for the episcopacy four and eight years ago, and the fact that he is now elected proves that he has excellent wearing qualities. The church will hear from him often and favorably.

will keep one in closer touch with them than that? Yes, one thing will: to do something to show one's affection. That is the crowning grace of love. If, to "the sessions of sweet, silent thought," we add the thoughtful deed of remembrance, the message of unwavering fealty, something to indicate that the fire of affection still burns upon the altar of the heart—we need have no fear that old affections will fall, or lose any of their fragrance and beatific grace with the years. Nor are the years the full scope and measure of these heart holdings. Heart ties that hold here will hold everywhere. Loyalties for this stage of existence are loyalties for all stages of existence.

Berkeley, Cal.

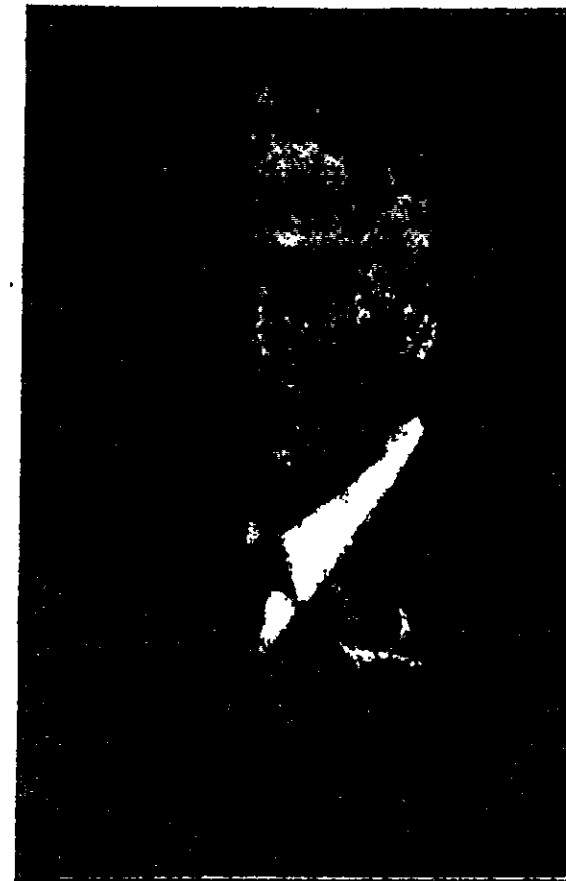
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#### SEEING WHAT WE LOOK FOR

Cleland B. McAfee, D. D.

There is a familiar fact in common experience which can be turned into large value for us all. It is that when we charge our minds with an idea, there will come to us from all sides material to enrich that idea. Everybody seems to be writing and speaking about the thing in which we are interested. We

ist Federation, Unification and Judicial Procedure. He advocated a supreme court for the Church, but was defeated. In 1906, he was fraternal delegate to the Wesleyan Con-



Bishop Richard Joseph Cooke

### Bishop Richard Joseph Cooke, D.D., L.H.D., LL.D.

Bishop Cooke died at his home in Athens, Tenn., on Christmas day.

Richard Joseph Cooke was born in New York City, January 31, 1853. His parents, Richard and Joana (Geary) Cooke, were Roman Catholics from Ireland, and their son was brought up in that faith and attended parochial school in Brooklyn. He had his own way to make in the world and at the age of nineteen went to Tennessee as a worker in a railway construction gang. Here he came under Protestant influences which changed his whole course of life. He began as a Methodist circuit rider in Tennessee Conference in 1874, located in 1877, and was readmitted to Holston Conference in 1879. He had slight preparation, but he set himself resolutely to remedy his deficiencies, and at the age of twenty-seven he was graduated at East Tennessee Wesleyan University at Athens. He had already begun to make his mark. He enjoyed a year of study in Berlin University (1885) and to the end of a busy life was an eager student of theology and philosophy. In 1889 he began to teach New Testament exegesis and historical theology in the School of Theology of U. S. Grant University, Chattanooga, Tenn. (now University of Chattanooga), which institution he also served as vice-chancellor and acting chancellor, serving also as editor of the *Methodist Advocate Journal* (1891-1904). His learning and intellectual vigor attracted wide attention to his editorials. From 1904 to 1912 he was Book Editor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and resided chiefly in New York during that period. In 1912 at Minneapolis he was elected bishop. He had been a member of every General Conference since 1896, serving on important committees and holding his ground in debate with the best. He served on commissions for revising the *Ritual* and the *Hymnal* and was a commissioner on Method-

ferences in England and Ireland. His books include *Doctrine of the Resurrection, Reasons for a Church Creed, The Historic Episcopate, History of the Ritual of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Christ and the Cities, Digest of Judicial Decisions, Methodist Episcopal Church, Incarnation and Recent Criticism, Religion in Russia Under the Soviets*. The Bishop's assignments as resident bishop were Portland, Ore. (1912-1916), Helena, Mont. (1918-20). In 1920, because of impaired health, he asked to be placed on the retired list. He has since lived among his books at Athens, Tenn., reading, writing and occasionally emerging from his retirement to preach. He suffered a slight stroke a few years ago. While returning from the Bishops' Meeting in Harrisburg, Pa., last month he had a fall in the Union Station at Washington, which had serious effects. On November 27 he had a second apoplectic shock from which he did not rally. On December 25 he passed away.

Bishop Cooke was twice married. By his first wife, Eliza Gettys Fisher, of Athens, Tenn., he had four sons, Richard W., James F., William Rule and Francis J. She died in 1904. In 1923 he married her sister, Ella B. Fisher, who survives him, with William and Francis.

Memorial services for Bishop Cooke were conducted from the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Athens, Tenn., Sunday morning, December 27, 1931, in charge of his pastor, Dr. W. M. Dye. Dr. J. M. Melear read the ritual, "I am the resurrection and the life." Bishop Cooke's favorite hymns—"Fare, fade each earthly joy," "Rock of Ages," "O Love that wilt not let me go"—were sung. Dr. J. M. Emert read the Scriptures. Bishop H. L. Smith offered prayer. Doctor Melear reviewed the official life of Bishop Cooke.

Bishop William F. McDowell followed with an appropriate address, closing with Longfellow's lines:

"Dead he lay among his books!  
The peace of God was in his looks."

Bishop Smith of Chattanooga gave a fitting closing address. Interment was in Cedar Grove Cemetery, where Bishop Smith, Doctor Dye, Doctor Emert and Doctor Melear conducted the committal service.

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D.D., LL.D.,  
Portland, Ore.

Property of the Board of Foreign Missions,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

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November 1, 1918.

W. F. Smith, D.D., ministerial delegate from the Holston Conference, was devotedly and ably served by the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the grand old city of Nashville. He is scarcely known out in this far-off city for any of the reasons in which he has not had a part, either of the great leaders of the church and country, of education, or in writing and editing the great issue. He published the first issue in the Methodist Church of the Holston Conference (1857), served four years as pastor, studied in Europe; received D. D. from the University of Tennessee (1861); ministerial delegate since 1869; vice-president 1875-1876; acting president 1877; president 1878-1879; member of the General Conference, 1880; member of the General Conference, 1884; member of the General Conference, 1888; member of the General Conference, 1892; member of the General Conference, 1896; member of the General Conference, 1900; member of the General Conference, 1904; member of the General Conference, 1908; member of the General Conference, 1912; member of the General Conference, 1916; member of the General Conference, 1920; member of the General Conference, 1924; member of the General Conference, 1928; member of the General Conference, 1932; member of the General Conference, 1936; member of the General Conference, 1940; member of the General Conference, 1944; member of the General Conference, 1948; member of the General Conference, 1952; member of the General Conference, 1956; member of the General Conference, 1960; member of the General Conference, 1964; member of the General Conference, 1968; member of the General Conference, 1972; member of the General Conference, 1976; member of the General Conference, 1980; member of the General Conference, 1984; member of the General Conference, 1988; member of the General Conference, 1992; member of the General Conference, 1996; member of the General Conference, 2000; member of the General Conference, 2004; member of the General Conference, 2008; member of the General Conference, 2012; member of the General Conference, 2016; member of the General Conference, 2020; member of the General Conference, 2024.

W. F. Smith, D.D.



Photographs from this  
file have not been  
included but are  
available upon request.  
For more information  
please contact  
[research@gcah.org](mailto:research@gcah.org)