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## MG 628 - Methodist / Wesleyan Autograph Book

**Dates:** 1836-1844, 1938-1939 (inclusive); 1836-1844 (predominant).

**Extent:** 1 album (3 cm of textual records).

**Scope and Contents:** This autograph / memory album contains writings from important Methodist/Wesleyan ministers, preachers and missionaries from both sides of the Atlantic. It starts: "Albums are Mansions - at the Door, A Page to bid you welcome stands, And they who never met before May join with pleasure friendly hands..." While the specific ownership is unknown there is little doubt given the many famous autographs and initials adorn the entries that this book resided with one of the senior Methodist ministers or their wife. Perhaps the best-known person in the album is the Canadian educator, politician, and Methodist minister, Egerton Ryerson, for whom Ryerson University is named, wrote "Canadians regard the civil and religious institutions of England as the standard of excellence, and invariably speak of her as their Mother country and their home. Egerton Ryerson Halifax April 3rd 1837." This autograph appears to be a mere four years after Ryerson lobbied effectively to merge the Canadian and English Wesleyan Churches in 1833. In addition to the textual entries, there are two good watercolors (by J Hinks) & a fine drawing of a mother & child (which has not been glued into the album).

**Restrictions:** There are no restrictions on access.

Provenance unknown.

Title based on contents.

*Guide prepared by C. Avery, with information provided by B. Katz, 2018. Formatting updated by Joanne Abrahamson, 2020.*

Autograph / memory album.

Other well-known entrants are David Evans ('the second' 1814-1847), William Pemberton (1806-1851), Philip Garrett (1769-1843), Benjamin Slack (1809-68) and Stephen Kay (missionary to South Africa, who wrote *Travel & Researches in Caffraria* 1833). Other writers include:

F.J. Bales April 5th 1837 Sowerby Bridge

Barker 1841 29th July Manchester Conference

Henry Bean March 10th 1843 Heckmandwike

Richard Backhouse Blackburn 19th December 1852

Willson Brailsford April 20th 1836 Bolton - W Brown April 20th 1836 Bolton

Daniel Chapman June 6th 1836 Halifax

David Evans 2nd August 5th 1841 Manchester Conference

Edward Fraser (Missionary from the West Indies)

Philip Garrett December 1st 1838 Sowerby Bridge

Ann Garside & Thomas Garside March 25th 1839 Halifax

Richard Heape November 7th 1937 Sowerby Bridge

James Heaton April 20th 1836 Bolton

J.Hinks March 30th 1842 Birmingham

Peter McOwan December 14th 1841

F.J Me - W.L.P Pontefract June 5th 1836 Sowerby Bridge

William Pemberton April 20th Bolton

Thomas Pennington May 7th 1842 Birmingham

J Sandby April 20th 1838 Sowerby Bridge

J.P. Sanderson H.P.47th Regt March 25th 1840 Leeds

J.C.Seppinton June 4th 1838 Sowerby Bridge

John Shaw September 30th 1839 Sowerby Bridge - Benjamin Slack (1809-68) - October 24th 1837 Halifax

Samuel Sugden June 2nd 1838 Sowerby Bridge

J.Walker September 30th 1839 Sowerby Bridge

John Wilson June 18th 1839 Robert Town

Richard Winter Hamilton March 23rd 1840 Leeds.