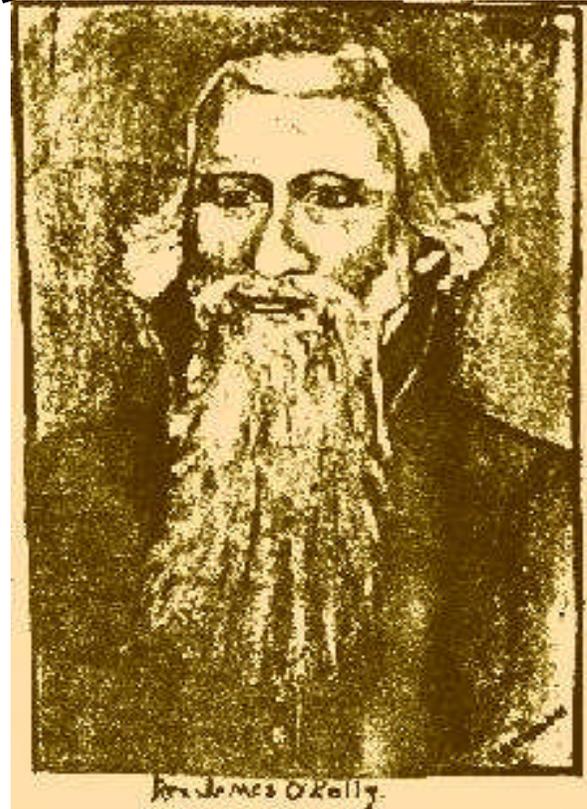


James O'Kelley

- Born In Ireland
- Moved To America At A Young Age
- Fell Under Influence Of Methodist Episcopal Church
- Ordained A Methodist Preacher



1738-1826

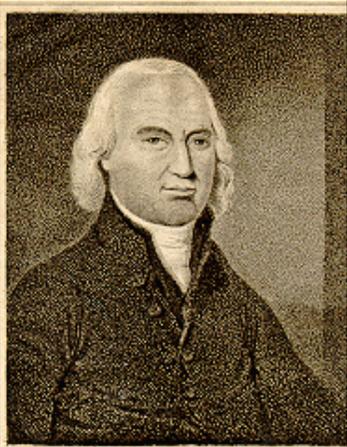
Methodism & Its Influence

John Wesley



1703-1791

Francis Asbury

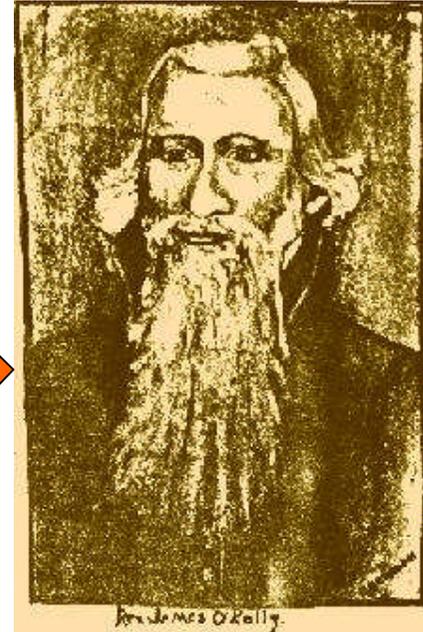


1745-1816

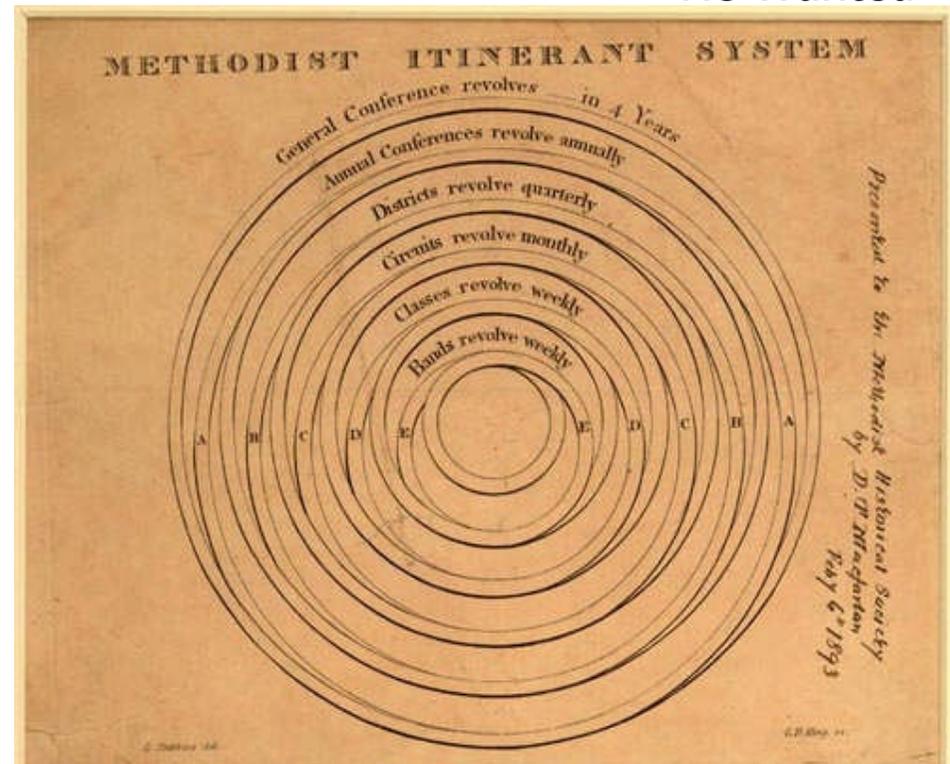
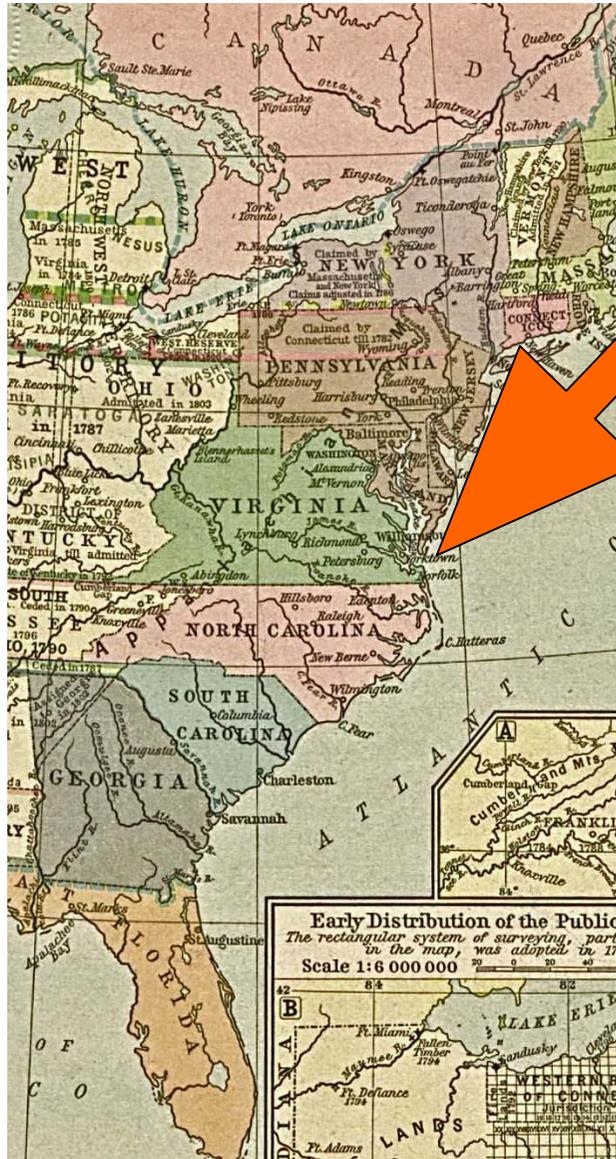
- John Wesley, Anglican Bishop Who Landed In Georgia In 1735
- May 1, 1739 In England Began First Methodist Society
 - Giving Christianity A More Personal Appeal, Became Very Attractive To People
- He Never Left Anglican Church
- In 1784 Sent Letter To American Churches Giving Them Independence From British Churches

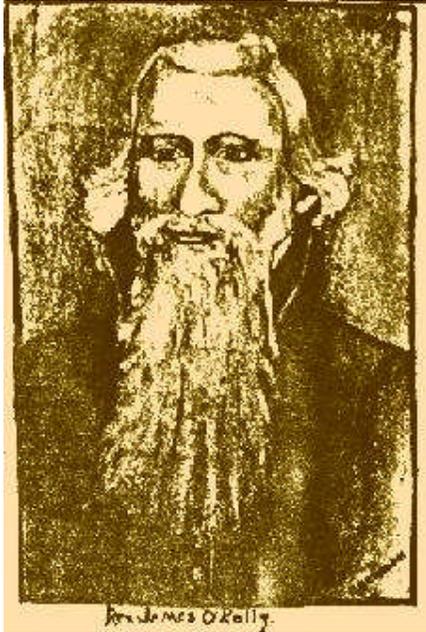
- Francis Asbury Was Appointed Head Of American Methodist Church, Dec. 25, 1784
- Asbury's Methods Were Harsh, Most Difficult To Follow
- Took Control Of The Circuit Riding Preachers

James O'Kelley & The Methodist System



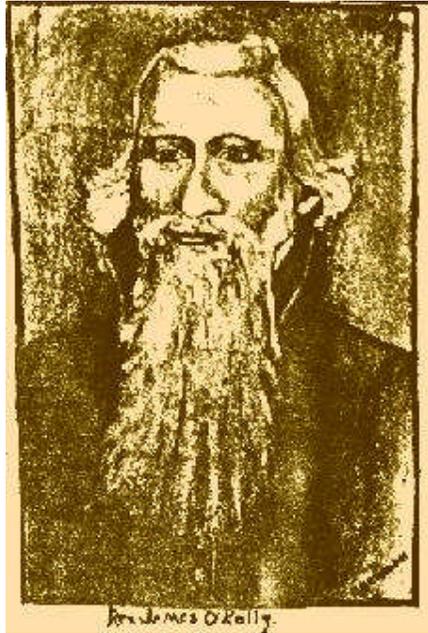
- Asbury Sent Circuit Riding Preachers To Outlying Churches
- An Elaborate Program
- O'Kelley Felt He Should Be Able To Go Where He Wanted





O'Kelley Leaves Methodism

- O'Kelley's Concerns
 - Didn't Like One Man Being Placed Over The Church
 - Thought Circuit Riders Should Go Where They Felt The Need
- By 1792 – Other Than Asbury, O'Kelley Was Probably The Most Influential Preacher Among Methodists
 - In 1789 – He Had Written *Essays On Negro Slavery*
 - He Was A Personal Friend To Thomas Jefferson
 - Had Addressed & Preached Before The U.S. Congress
- December 24, 1792 – Awkward Conference Of Methodist – Made Two Suggestions
 - If Circuit Riders Did Not Like Their Assigned Circuit, They Could Appeal To The Conference For Change
 - Proposed That The Bible Be Taken As Final Authority In All Doctrinal Matters
 - Neither Were Accepted



O'Kelly Leaves Methodism

- Broke With Methodists With Many Followers
- They Called Themselves Republican (Free) Methodists
- August 4, 1794 – At A Meeting At “Old Lebanon” Surry County, Virginia A Momentous Event Took Place
- At The Suggestion Of Rice Haggard They Took The Name “Christian” Only And Determined To Go Back To The Bible



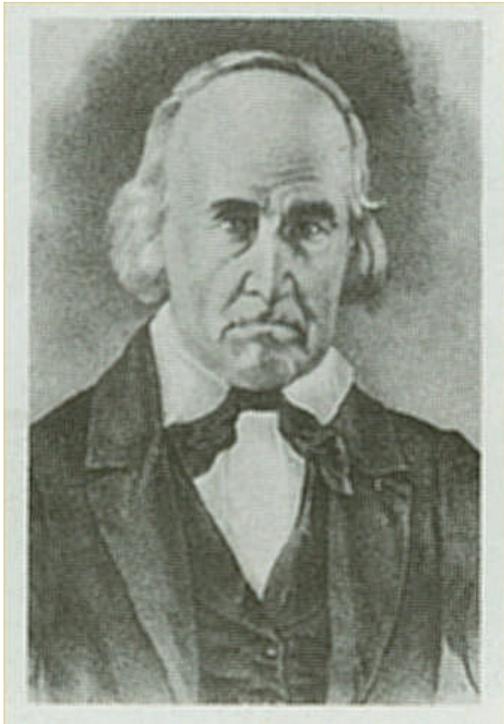
Christian Movement In Virginia & North Carolina

- The First "Christian" Church Was Established Near Flavana, Virginia
- Marked A Coming Together Of The Smith, O'Kelley & Jones Movements
- O'Kelley Lived Near Durham, North Carolina And Planted Christian Churches
- His Beliefs
 - Lord's Supper On 1st Day Of Week
 - Collection – Free-Will Offering
 - Singing, Preaching, Praying
 - Failed At Baptism



An Indiana Movement

John Wright



1785-1851

- John Wright Was A Member Of A German Free-Will Baptist Group
 - Known As “Dunkers” – German For “Immersionists”
 - Began Comparing Baptist Doctrine To Baptist Doctrine And Found Discrepancies
 - When Comparing Baptist Doctrine To Scripture, Found Discrepancies
- Taught That The Bible Was All-Sufficient For Faith & Practice
- The Lord’s Supper Should Be Taken On The 1st Day Of Every Week
- Thought Baptism Was Essential To Eternal Salvation, But Not For Forgiveness Of Sins – Later Changed This Belief
- His Actions: Took 16 Baptist Churches Away From Baptists Near Salem, Indiana
- In All This He Had Never Heard Of Alexander Campbell