

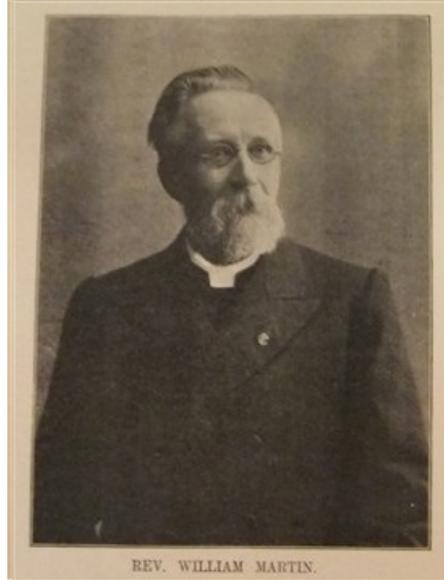
## WILLIAM MARTIN

William was born in 1846 at Chatham, Kent

William married Ellen Selina Moody in 1875 at Devonport. They had three children but Ellen died on the 5th May 1881 following the birth of her third child who also died.

William then married Margaret Ann Chastney in 1882 at Fakenham, Norfolk. They had five children

William died on 4 August 1916 at Dunmow, Essex.



The following few newspaper fragments give colour to his life and more detail can be found via:  
[http://www.myprimitivemethodists.org.uk/category/primitive\\_methodist\\_ministers](http://www.myprimitivemethodists.org.uk/category/primitive_methodist_ministers)

### THETFORD A LECTURE ON VASHTI

A lecture on behalf of the Primitive Methodist Mutual Improvement Class was given in the Primitive Methodist chapel on Monday evening, by the Rev. W. Martin, president, Mr. G. Foulger in the chair.

After a tea in the school-room the meeting was held, the subject of the lecture being "Queen Vashti"

The lecturer traced the history of this remarkable woman as recorded in the Book of Esther, a book which was considered by many people to have no right to be included in the canonical books of the Old Testament. The lecturer then depicted the era of King Ahasuerus, the extent of his dominion and power, and the magnificence of his palaces, his seven days' feast to innumerable Princes and courtiers, and his Queen Vashti's bold and heroic refusal to obey her husband's commands to attend his feast, in order to satisfy the lusts and desires of his despotic and drunken courtiers, preferring rather to suffer banishment and death than to submit to a violation of Oriental decency.

The lesson derived from this interesting narrative was, that those who dare to do right and be true are not always the most successful in a human point of view, as evnced by the conduct of this heroic women, and that it was better to suffer in the cause of right than to bear flattery in the cause of wrong, the lecturer advising all his hearers to dare to do right, and to leave the results to a higher and better power, and to tread the path of duty fearlessly and the crown of immortal glory would be their reward.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks, and a collection toward. payment for a harmonium. The choir enlivened the lecture with choruses and some of Sankey's hymns.

(Bury Free Press 26 March 1881)

### William spent 14 years in the Gloucester circuit:

The Conservatives objected to the Mr William Martin, Primitive minister, of Regent-house, Regent-street, on the ground that he was not the tenant.

The rev. gentleman stated that the rent of the house was given him by the Quarterly Meeting as part of his stipend. He was not obliged to live there, but the ministers were in the habit of going there. A portion of the furniture was his, whilst the other belonged to the Quarterly Meeting, which was for the use of the ministers who came to the chapel. If they disfranchised him they would be able to disfranchise about a thousand other ministers who were in the same position as himself.

Mr. Kent submitted that as the whole of the furniture did not belong to Mr. Martin, and as the money came from the Quarterly Meeting - notwithstanding the fact that the house was taken in his name - he could not be sued for the rent, and therefore he was not entitled to claim a vote.

The Revising Barrister said it was a most difficult case, and he referred to the case of Burton v. the Chatham Overseer. That case, he said, was similar to the one in question, and he should therefore have to allow the vote.

(Gloucester Citizen 10 September 1891)

### A RECHABITE SERMON

On Sunday evening, at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Barton - street, a sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Martin under the auspices of the Samuel Bowly and Snowdrop Tents of the Independent Order of Rechabites (Salford Unity) Friendly Society.

There was a good congregation, se well as a moderately good attendance of the members wearing the white regalia of the order.

Before announcing his text (which was the 8th verse of the 35th chapter of Jeremiah) the preacher stated that when asked to preach a Rechabite sermon he at once consented and with much pleasure, first, because he was a member of the Rechabite Order, and second, because of encouraging total abstinence from intoxicating liquors.

He thought the Order was doing a splendid work in seeking to lesson the curse of intemperance, the encouragement of thrift by way of providing for time of sickness and death, and brotherly love to each other.

He believed that total abstinence was a help to Christianity, and not a hindrance, as most of their best church workers, and Sunday school teachers were abstainers, whereas the drink supplied 60,000 deaths annually through drunkenness, besides an innumerable train of other evils, such as pauperism, crime, &c., not to mention the money spent on it annually in the United Kingdom.

Some said that they made too much noise about Temperance, but surely if all this evil could be traced to it one would think we ought to make more. Then, too, total abstinence was good for our bodies, as people could work better without intoxicants, and compared with others, lived longer, and had better health, as was illustrated by the Order of Rechabites.

In conclusion be urged upon the young the great advantage of being total abstainers, and advocated their joining themselves to this Order as an additional safeguard.

(Gloucester Citizen - Monday 13 June 1892)

### PRESENTATION

On Friday evening, at the Melbourne-street Primitive Methodist Chapel, the Rev. W. Martin was presented with a silver sugar basin and cream jug, in recognition of his 14 yeans services. Mr. A. Brown made the presentation on behalf of the subscribers.

(Gloucester Citizen - Saturday 14 July 1894)

## **William was minister in Maidenhead in 1900**

### **PRESENTATION TO THE REV. W. MARTIN**

The Rev. W. Martin, who for three years has been the superintendent minister of the Maidenhead Circuit (Primitive Methodist), is leaving Maidenhead for Gravesend. His work in the circuit has been attended with gratifying success, especially in connection with the Queen-street chapel.

On Friday evening, the 3rd inst., a number of friends met at the residence of Mr. Braggins, Wellington - road, when Mr. Martin was handed a marble clock by Mr. Thomas Timberlake (on behalf of the subscribers) as a token of their appreciation of his services, and an expression of their goodwill.

Mr. Martin appropriately acknowledged the gift and the kindly feeling which prompted it. The Rev W. Martin's successor is the Rev. J H. Packham of Aylesbury.

(Reading Mercury - Saturday 11 July 1903)

## **Shortly after leaving Maidenhead, William and his the family suffered a sudden bereavement**

### **SAD DEATH IN SOUTH AFRICA**

Rev. W. Martin (until recently resident Primitive Methodist minister in Maidenhead) and his wife and family have sustained a sad bereavement by the death of their son-in-law, Mr. West Holden Chatten.

Miss Martin proceeded from Maidenhead to South Africa early in the summer and was married there on July 11th last to Mr. Chatten.

In less than two months Mrs. Chatten has lost her husband. He was ill for one week only, and died of peritonitis and abscess. An operation was satisfactorily performed at the Frere Hospital, East London, S.A. on the 7th September, but later a deep-seated abscess was discovered and proved fatal on the 9th ult.

The funeral took place next day. Mrs. Chatten was prostrate and too ill to attend the funeral service.

(Reading Mercury - Saturday 17 October 1903)