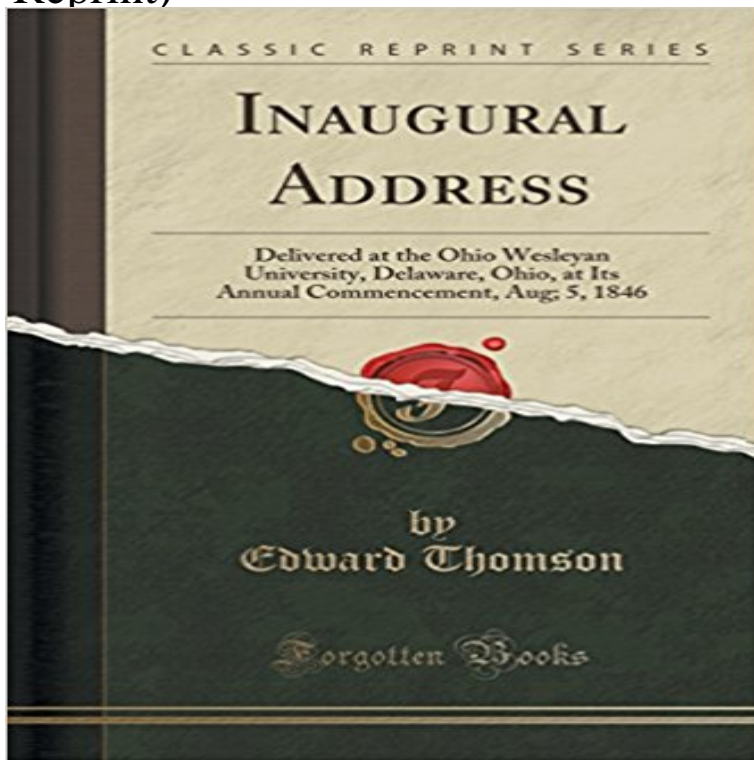


Inaugural Address: Delivered at the Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, at Its Annual Commencement, Aug; 5, 1846 (Classic Reprint)



Excerpt from Inaugural Address: Delivered at the Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, at Its Annual Commencement, Aug; 5, 1846

The Ohio Wesleyan University originated in the liberality and public spirit of Delaware, a village which, by the centrality and accessibility of its position, the beauty of its rural prospects, and the intelligence, morality, and catholic feeling of its inhabitants, is admirably suited to such an institution. We wonder not that the thought of establishing it should occur to them; for who of classic associations can cross that brook, fringed with willows, or ascend yon gravel walk, shaded with majestic locusts, without thinking of the groves of sacred Academus; or who survey, from the margin of that stream, or the summits of those flowering hills, the edifice that rises so impressively upon his view, without fancying he beholds the temple of science. It was easy to perceive, that a college, to be permanent, must be endowed, and to be useful, must be patronized; and that to secure both endowment and patronage, it must be placed under the fostering care of some religious denomination. Now to which of the sects in Ohio were the people of Delaware to look for the aid indispensable to the establishment of their literary institution? The lordly halls of Kenyon filled the eyes of Episcopalians, the neat edifices of Granville attracted the undivided attention of Baptists, whilst a score of classic piles were distracting the views and dividing the affections of Presbyterians; but, lo ! the Methodists, with a membership of 150, 000, had no literary institution of a higher grade than the academy. To them, therefore, it was natural that our citizens should turn. Accordingly, they sent a committee to the North Ohio conference, at its session in the fall of 1841, bearing a proposal to donate to it ten acres of ground, embracing the sulphur

spring, and the present college edifice, on condition that it should, within a reasonable time, establish thereon a collegiate institution. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

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