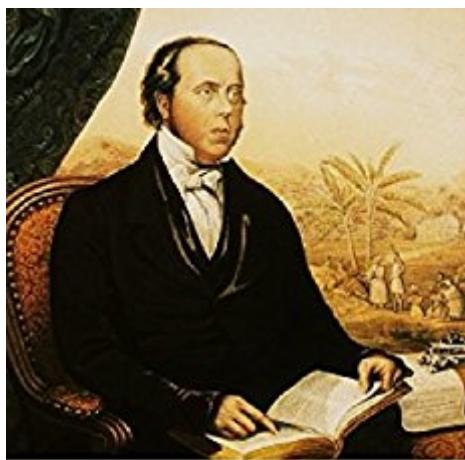


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William Knibb, Missionary In Jamaica: A Memoir



WILLIAM KNIBB
Missionary in Jamaica

MARY ESTHER SMITH



Synopsis

William Knibb (1803 – 1845) was an English Baptist minister and missionary to Jamaica. He is chiefly known today for his work to free slaves. William, whose heart had long been fixed on becoming attached to some missionary station, became the successor of his brother Thomas at Kingston as agent of the Baptist Missionary Society, in 1824. It was the insurrection in the island in 1831 and 1832 which called forth the ardent feeling of Mr. Knibb on the side of the slave, and contributed to the development of a character of no ordinary power, and destined to the performance of no ordinary service. It is a wonder that he should have been exposed so long to the extremes both of persecution and of popularity, and have remained to so great a degree unharmed by either. He had good sense, strong nerves, simple speech, a warm heart, and lively piety. What common-place qualities are these! Yet they made an extraordinary man. They made a man who, by active sympathy with its griefs, has left the world better than he found it; while too often, men of genius and profundity, soaring listlessly above it, have, after a passing look of pity or contempt, left it as it was.

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