

History

There are two versions of the origins of "Down In My Heart," aka "I've Got the Joy".

1. George William Cooke was born in Yorkshire, England in 1824 and died in Jamestown, New York in 1951. He was the author of "Joy in My Heart" which was copyrighted in 1926 (but not renewed). At that time he was living in Wilmington, Delaware. He was a minister and associated with a group called Gospel Crusaders which was associated with the Methodist Church.

hymnary.org



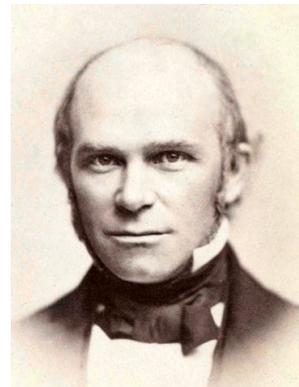
This may or may not be George William Cooke. Research is not conclusive.

2. George Willis Cooke (23 April 1848 - 30 April 1923). The date of authorship is as yet unknown. Cooke was born in Comstock, Michigan. He was a Unitarian minister, writer, and editor and is well known for his landmark history of the Unitarian movement in the 19th century.

Though largely self-taught, he studied at Meadville Theological School in 1872. He was ordained in June of that year, not having obtained a degree from the school. He served the parish ministry for 28 years, while writing and editing.

He left the ministry in 1900 to pursue scholarship and lecturing. He authored more than 20 books on a wide range of subjects.

Wikipedia



George Willis Cooke