

having been confirmed by the unanimous vote of that Conference, we advise that no alteration of any considerable importance be made in that discipline, unless, after a full trial for a sufficient length of time, you shall find it absolutely necessary to propose some change.— We do not now refer to any of the essential articles of discipline, on which the union is founded, for those we trust will be strictly permanent; but we are of opinion that even in smaller points of discipline, it is not prudent to be frequently altering our modes of proceeding. The founder of Methodism said, “Do not mend our rules, but keep them.” In your part of the world, it is of peculiar importance that the grand object of all our people, next to the salvation of their own souls, should be the salvation of the people around them; and that their minds should not be occupied with frequent discussions about changes in your discipline, which would occasion disputes and contentions, by which the peace of your societies may be injured, and the prosperity of the cause of God, in some measure, be prevented. By pursuing with simplicity and singleness of heart your one great concern, the salvation of immortal men, you will most directly and effectually promote the enlargement of the Redeemer’s kingdom.

It has given us great pleasure to hear from our brethren who have visited Upper Canada within the year, that His Excellency, Sir John Colborne, the Lieutenant Governor of that Province, is so cordially disposed to promote the Christian instruction of the new settlers, and of the Indian tribes. It is cause of gratitude to God that there are now so many persons, high in authority, in various colonies of the British empire, who see the duty and importance of caring for the moral and religious interests of the people.

We greatly rejoice to learn that our brethren in Upper Canada are resolved to give themselves wholly to God and his work. In the midst of all worldly changes, and political contentions, it has from the beginning been our principle, according to the divine direction, to “fear God, and honour the King.” Loyalty to our Sovereign,