

altogether) that we have had. God blessed us with great peace, brotherly love abounded, with a high spirit of devotion. The public services were seasons of power and life, specially marked with that life and warmth for which our forefathers were distinguished. It is but right to add that our own friends and friends of other denominations did nobly in entertaining the Delegates, whose visit to that ambitious and prosperous Town will long be remembered with pleasurable emotions.

We call attention to the general uneasiness and the tendency of Christian Churches to associate the laity with the ministers in the government of the churches. We cannot close our eyes to the fact that changes are taking place—men are becoming more like God in loving the brethren and preferring one another in love, with a tendency to adopt the gospel plan: "One is your master and all ye are brethren." Your delegates sent to conference at Guelph—good men and true—fully persuaded that in the presence of God all men are equal, ventured to take a step not taken heretofore in the administration of methodism in this country, viz.: to elect a layman to preside over their deliberations. May we ask why such a departure from general usage? Was it on account of any superior ability? Certainly not. Was it for want of a minister possessing suitable qualification? Certainly not. Was it to please a faction? No. Was it intended to offer offence to any man or set of men? No. Perhaps it was intended as a declaration of a principle very dear to us, for which we have manfully laboured and lived; in which we very likely glory, but we hope not above measure. Let us in the mean time be humble, and in the fear of God rejoice that other Christian communities are drawing nearer to us. Let us pray that we all may be one in Christ, who said, "Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them I must bring, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd."

The Conference rejoiced to learn that the opening of missions in St. Catharines and Montreal had been successful. To the latter place they were induced to send another agent, encouraged as they were by new friends and supporters offering liberal special contributions to sustain that very necessary work. We hope that such friends will be multiplied and that God's work will never stand still for want of that which belongs to Him. "The gold and the silver are mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills, saith the Lord." We are only limited in our missionary operations by the means at our disposal: we have no hesitation in affirming that your labourers in the great mission field do as much work for the money as any other men. We therefore distinctly and firmly repudiate any and all charges that have been or may be made against us of wastefulness or extravagance, we earnestly and affectionately ask our people to continue and increase their annual missionary contributions,

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