

given one week of work to Compton village, where also great blessing has come. Night before last the altar was more than crowded with young men only, while four pews had to be given up to other seekers. Some of the young men were Christians who brought seekers with them. It was a service never to be forgotten. One of the young men was a stranger from San Francisco. He stood up last night to declare what God had done for him on the previous night, and gave us a touching testimony. God keep him. The whole country around is moved. Brother Porter has, I believe, been led of God in his plans. He takes us for occasional afternoon and evening services to outside points—Ives' Hill, Richby, Moe's River; and at a cordial invitation from our Congregational friends at Waterville we hold a service in their church this afternoon and back to Compton for the evening.

"The dear people are most kindly and co-operative; singers from their choirs help us; conveyances placed at our services, even floral decorations greet us at some points we go to. And best of all, God is with us. Some twenty circuits are calling for

"help through this section. Yesterday I invited two of our young men to come from the West to us. On Thursday Dr. Stirling arrived. He feels led into Band work. Brother Clemens and Sister Hall are tired with the steady strain of the song service that has been upon them. I keep up wonderfully, thank God. It must be in answer to the many earnest believing prayers that go up to God for His poor weak servant. Well, by and bye, they that sow and they that reap shall rejoice together. Indeed, it is so already.

"I cannot describe to you the charming scenery of this country. It is properly named the 'Switzerland of Canada.' In some localities the wildness, ruggedness, and majesty of unsubdued nature. In others the sweetness and softness of touch which comes of taste and culture; forest and flood, hill-slopes with a mosaic of well-tilled fields, golden, brown and green. Blue mountains in the distance with quiet lakes sleeping at their feet or held up to the sky on their steepes

"Affectionately yours,  
"D. SAVAGE."

## Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

BY THE REV. E. BARRASS, M.A.

### THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

This greatest ecclesiastical court of the Methodist Church assembled in the Metropolitan Church, Toronto, on September 1st, and was still in session when we went to press.

Great interest is always felt in the meetings of the General Conference, but as the present meeting was the first which had been held since the various branches of Methodism formed one united body, there was greater interest felt in the proceedings of the present gathering, as the Church had been travelling a new

path. The reports which were presented from all departments of the Church clearly indicated that the Lord of Hosts was leading His people forward to greater conquests than have ever yet been achieved.

#### STATISTICS.

In respect to members of the Church there are now 198,000—an increase of 30,242 since 1883. Ministers and probationers 1,543, with 1,900 local preachers. At the last census about one-fifth of the popula-