

be mutual. Our lay members will bring in light and help to us and will carry out a better knowledge of our work to you, "To the end that we may be comforted together by the mutual faith" both of you and us.

We pause in our retrospect of the past and outlook upon the future to reverently bow before the will of the Almighty who is ever burying his workmen while carrying on his work. One young brother Lamert Stevens at the opening of a promising ministry has been called away. Two most reverend fathers who bound us to the past when we were but a missionary district of English Methodism have during this memorable year finished their course with joy and the ministry which they obtained of the Lord Jesus. The venerable Dr. Richey, whose rich eloquence seemed peculiar to himself, one of those rare representative men who belong not only to one Conference, but to all Methodism, nor yet to one Christian body, but to all. Father Addy, whose pioneer toils have won trophies for Christ in these provinces, a most successful, loving minister of the New Testament whose faith we would follow.

We are again encouraged by signs that the word preached has come in demonstration of the Spirit and that your faith has not stood in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. We are gladdened by the reports, of numerous conversions in many circuits. So that after suffering many losses by death and removal our membership increases by 339 persons. Our Sabbath schools and other branches of church work also show signs of life and growth.

While devoutly thankful that the past year has not been without its increase to the labors of the sower, there remains very much in our failure to overtake the work that is given us to do that causes sorrow and humiliation of Spirit. What are the results in comparison with the demands and with the exceeding greatness of Christ's power toward them that believe! Fields unreaped are waving white unto the harvest. Souls for whom Christ died perish from out the shadows of our sanctuaries. Iniquity abounds, unbelief deadens, false teaching poisons, and worldliness lurs to an enchanted destruction. In confronting these facts we wish to enlist your earnest prayerfulness and hearty co-operation.

To meet in part the demands far more extended revival work the Conference has entertained the conviction that it ought to set apart one of its members as an evangelist. to visit those circuits from which might come the Macedonian cry. A similar impressive power in many minds without consultation points to the leaving of the Divine Spirit, to make provision for this work so soon as Providence has placed within our reach the man and means. Meanwhile a large Committee has been appointed to hold the matter in deliberation.

But we wish to remind you, brethren, that for the success or failure of a preached Gospel the church at large shares the responsibility with its ministers. Ye are testifiers before the world of what Christ has done and is able to do as surely as we are preachers thereof. It is becoming that both the witness and proclamation be equally true and that there be no uncertain sound. Ye are the salt, ye are the light, ye are the bride, ye are the body of Christ. Ye are the members who serve the head and carry into operation the will and wisdom, and loving thought of the head. What is the advantage of an arm or a foot or a finger if it do not obey the thinking of the head which is sent in thrilling impulses to every extremity of the muscular fibre? Does not the Spirit of Christ dwell in all His members and make their pulse to throb with His love and work in them both, to will and to do of His good pleasure.

Suffer us then, dear brethren, to stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance. It behooves all those who constitute any part of the visible church to consider what Christ and His apostles meant by the church of which such glorious things are spoken. What could the church mean to the mind of the apostles but the *ecclesia* or called out of Christ—those who hear His voice and forsake all to follow Him; those who find a magnetism in His person; those whose hearts under the pleading Spirit answer to Christ's great heart, and who enter His service and rally round His cross. They are the called of Christ. They have come out of the world. They are fully on the Lord's side. They are His peculiar people i.e., His own specials, somewhat in the sense in which a body guard is the King's own. They are zealous of good works. In this sense only can any people claim to be the church.

This is a great honor to which any presume to aspire. In order that they may attain thereunto should they not jealously guard against counter influences and zealously employ every means that can promote piety or usefulness. Examine yourselves, dear

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