

We are happy in being able to say that the war-cloud which apparently hung over us is dispersed. And while we are thankful to God that our highly favored Province is not to be the theatre of war, with its numerous destructive attendants, we are also grateful to the same kind Providence that, in answer to thousands of earnest prayers, war is averted between two christian nations, both of which are earnestly laboring, not only to promote the progress of science, literature, philanthropy, and the various arts of life, but to spread the gospel of peace; and in some instances are combinedly supporting men in foreign lands to preach this Gospel, and to disseminate its blessings.

We are sorry that civil war rages to so awful an extent in the neighboring republic, and that so many are being cut down by this dreadful scourge. But while we deplore the existence of this scourge among our neighbors, we cannot shut our eyes to what to us appears the originating cause, the existence and the fostering of that fearful curse to a nation—slavery. Our fervent prayer to God is that these bloody scenes may soon cease to be enacted, and that this war may be in His providence over-ruled to wipe the stain of slavery from the United States escutcheon, and to carry out His own gracious designs in that country.

Since the Conference of 1861, two of our Local Elders, and one of our Supernumerary Ministers, have been called away, we trust, to the rest of heaven; and one of our Ministers has been placed on the superannuated list. We have received ten Brethren into the ranks of our itinerancy at the present Conference, five of whom are unmarried and promising young men. We have had an increase this year of eighteen Chapels, seven Parsonages, seventy-seven members, and forty-nine on trial. Our small increase in membership is to some extent attributable to the great number of removals this year. We feel sorry and humbled before God that our increase has been so small, and we earnestly pray that the Great Head of the Church may pour out his Spirit anew and more fully than ever upon us speedily. As it regards our funds, there has been no advance upon last year, but some small deficiency, so that ten per cent will have to be taken off the grants made to the Circuits. One reason that may be assigned for this fact is the failure of the crops in some parts of the country, and another is, the scarcity of money in the country generally.

In reference to the Theological Institute, we would say that two young Brethren have satisfactorily pursued their studies under the tuition of Rev. W. McClure; and as it regards the future prospects of this Institution, we may add that, it is now to have a permanent location, and to be established on a permanent basis. More than £111 has already been promised by the members of this Conference for the accomplishment of this object, and probably the amount will be much enlarged yet.—