

Annual Report.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE MISSION WORK OF THE M. E. CHURCH IN CANADA :

In issuing the Annual Report of the contributions of our people in aid of our Missions, the Missionary Board desires, in the spirit of the Gospel of Christ, to say a few earnest and faithful words to the lovers and promoters of the Missionary operations of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

In the first place, let us all be profoundly and continually grateful to God for what He hath wrought in us, for us, and through us. We have ourselves, either directly or indirectly, experienced multitudes of invaluable blessings, through the blood-purchased, spirit-sanctioned, and martyr-sealed Gospel of Christ. If friends have been saved from sin and exalted to glory, the Gospel hath done it ; if our own souls are cleansed and trustful and peaceful, the Gospel hath done it ; if the civil and religious liberty of a Christian civilization establishes us in its security and bestows on us its honors, the Gospel hath done it ; if the increasing light of the science of this Christian era shines upon us, making many hidden ways plain and diffusing the unspeakable advantages of Christian culture and schools, the Gospel hath done it ; if there is implanted in our hearts the good hope of heaven, if there are within us pious impulses to virtue, or upon us generous restraints from vice, the Gospel hath done it. And can we imagine such a Gospel is for us alone ? Can we think that God, who is no respecter of persons, should not have designed it for all ? Can we suppose that such an economy of grace, divine as it is in its origin, glowing with light, instinct with life, and beaming with love, should not carry within itself an energy of dissemination, a moral obligation, a religious and conscientious impulse in all recipients to urge it onward and outward, and to bear it speedily to all our kindred and all our countrymen and all men, with its fulness of blessings for all ? It is a divine authority ; it is God Himself that saith, " Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." It is a divine injunction—" Freely ye have