

other religious systems, and go on to mar, or obliterate, those peculiarities, we shall again become a divided people. We look to you, beloved brethren, to aid us who are resolved to preserve intact the familiar features of Primitive Methodism.

Our great need is a baptism of power as distinct from an increase of organizations. A plain and earnest evangelism carries the secret of our success. In the holy race with other Churches to take this country for Christ, we have lost the odds that a popular theology once gave us, for the preaching of the day from Protestant pulpits is substantially on a line with our own. And in this we greatly rejoice. But this fact should have the good effect of driving us to the Source of all our strength for the endowment of that power from on high, which made so effectual the preaching of the early Methodist preachers, and without which we but beat the air.

Do not postpone your expectation of seeing much good done under the preaching of the Word till the set time of special revival effort shall have come. This were to dishonor both the Spirit and the Word. Do not depend upon extraneous aid for carrying on the work of God. Every congregation is a Church within itself to which all the promises that pertain to the quickening and the enlargement of the divine life and the spreading of the kingdom of God are given.

Among the means for the strengthening of your own religious life we heartily recommend to you the study of Christian biography, and, above all, the study of the One Perfect Life.

Make much of your incomparable hymn-book. We are jealous for it lest your attention should be too much diverted from it to hymns of an ephemeral character, devoid of the true poetic fire, and often shallow and misleading in their conceptions of divine truth. Make it the close and choice companion of your private, as well as public devotions. Every doctrine of the Christian faith, every Christian privilege, and every aspiration of the soul after God finds therein a true expression.

Your Christian character is involved in your citizenship; therefore be good citizens, "Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's." Your vote is no light matter. Never cast it but in the name of God. Be fully persuaded in your own mind that it is, on every occasion, such a vote as will make for that all comprehending righteousness "which exalteth a nation." Cultivate the patriotic spirit because it is self-ennobling, and because it is approved by scriptural example:

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem,
Let my right hand forget her cunning."

Because it is Christlike: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killeth the prophets, and stoneth them that are sent unto her! how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"

The sigh which voiced itself in these words was the sigh of a patriot's heart. Then let all our people say, from eastern to western coast, and from the great river to the farthest north, "For (Canada's) sake will (we) not hold (our) peace, and for (the Dominion's) sake (we) will not rest, until her righteousness go forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burneth."

"The powers that be are ordained of God," therefore, cultivate the loyal spirit which ever prays for those in authority over us, and which ever blesses the Providence which cast our lot under a civil and political constitution, than which none other secures so well, safety to the person, security to possessions, and freedom to worship God. Cultivate the imperial spirit, for in doing so you will have apostolic precedent, as when St. Paul brought consternation to the authorities at Philippi by communicating to them the startling fact that he was a Roman whom they had beaten and imprisoned without cause, and as