

Editor's Portfolio.

A DESERVED COMPLIMENT.

COMPLIMENTARY addresses are, not unfrequently, mere matters of form. Such, however, is not the case with the one which follows. By a life at once blameless and useful, Bro. Aikins has won for himself no mean place in the esteem of the Christian people of Montreal, while his devotion to all the interests of Methodism renders such a tribute from his brethren appropriate and proper. We trust Bro. Aikins may have many years of usefulness in his new sphere. The address explains itself:

TO JAMES AIKINS, ESQ.,

DEAR BROTHER,—We, the members of the Quarterly Board of the Montreal Fourth Circuit of the Methodist Church of Canada, with which you have been intimately identified since the first organization of the Circuit, have heard with great sorrow of your intended departure from our midst to reside in another part of the Dominion.

We feel that in parting with you we are losing one who in all departments of the work committed to him, as Local Preacher, Class Leader, Sabbath School Teacher, and Church Trustee, has proved himself a most faithful and efficient labourer, and we cannot allow that parting to take place without giving expression in some form to the sincere sentiments of high esteem and Christian affection which we cherish towards you personally—impressed as we have been with your uniform Christian consistency, urbanity, hearty readiness to co-operate in every good word and work, and faithfulness in the discharge of all official duties devolving upon you, as well as your superior judgment in the deliberations of the Board.

And to those especially, who were identified with you in the erection of the Dorchester Street Church, will often revert the memory of the hopes and fears you shared in that undertaking, to the success of which, under God, you so ably and effectively contributed.

We bow to the ruling of Divine Providence in this separation, believing that in it He to whom "thy way" is committed, is directing "thy path" and while we would hail with unfeigned joy the favouring dispensation of Providence which would direct your early return and permanent stay among us, we earnestly pray that wheresoever placed, you and those dear to you may ever realize and enjoy "the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ," and in the great day of final account hear the welcome plaudit, "Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord."

Signed on behalf of the Board,

T. M. BRYSON,
Recording Steward.

E. A. STAFFORD,
Superintendent.