

to attest the lineal and unbroken connection that exists between the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada.

The restoration of peace to your great country by the termination of the fratricidal rebellion, originated for the defence of a system, "the sum of all villainies;" together with the complete overthrow of that gigantic iniquity, has filled our hearts with gratitude to God, while we sorrow deeply in considering the dreadful sacrifice of blood and treasure by which your amazing conquests have been achieved. We sympathized with you in your sufferings, we rejoice with you in your successes, and we pray God that you may be fully endowed for the fulfillment of those weighty responsibilities which in your case are the necessary result of victory.

You have before you the greatest work ever undertaken by a Christian people; the education and training of millions of ignorant and once enslaved persons, to fit them for the enjoyment of freedom, and to enable them to discharge the duties of free citizenship. God has preserved to you national unity; and we earnestly pray that with progressive power and influence, you may, in union with the Christian people of Great Britain and other nations help to spread throughout the world the blessings of heavenly light and Christian civilization.

We are in this country passing through a transition state of comparative colonial isolation; and by the establishment of the Dominion of Canada, embracing several Provinces under one Confederated Government, are assuming a status of nationality, calculated to promote our growth and prosperity. But we are not insensible to the solemn truth that "except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain who build it;" and as our responsibilities are augmented, so are we resolved to increase our evangelical efforts for the salvation of our country, and the universal spread of Scripture holiness.