

Street Church. I was present, and saw how greatly moved all the ministers were when they finally bade each other adieu. At the close of the Conference, Dr. Ryerson delivered a memorable speech in defence of his proceedings. As he closed, he referred to his disinterested labors for the church of his choice, and quoted with touching effect the following words from one of Wesley's hymns :

" No foot of land do I possess,
No cottage in the wilderness ;
A poor wayfaring man."

Political feeling had somewhat to do with the disruption. The rebellion of 1837-8 had its influence also, although not one of the Canadian Methodist leaders was implicated in that movement. The only one suspected and brought to trial was Dr. T. D. Morrison, a former mayor of Toronto ; but he was honorably acquitted. Indeed, some of the bitterest words uttered by Mr. W. L. Mackenzie were directed against Dr. Ryerson for his warning letters to the people of Upper Canada against carrying the banner of reform into the ranks of the disaffected. These letters, headed " Impressions," were written after Dr. Ryerson returned from his collecting tour for Upper Canada Academy in England in 1836. (While in Dublin in that year he was a guest of my father.) The " Impressions " were chiefly directed against the acts and treasonable utterances of Messrs. Hume and Roebuck, Mr. Mackenzie's allies in England and in the British House of Commons.

As an evidence of the kindly nature and sagacious foresight of Rev. John Ryerson—although a warm Conservative (or loyalist, as they were called in those days)—he was the spokesman of a deputation to Sir George Arthur to urge him