

tear trickled down the cheeks of those hardy people as they sang these affecting lines.

John Sampson was a strong man, full of life and energy; he had been a wrestler, cock-fighter, and had been in many a drunken spree and had figured in many a "scruff."

It was John's first attempt to speak at a meeting, and he was listened to with intense interest. He said, "Dear friends, you all know that I served the devil for many years. Now what did I get for it. I got kicks and bruises, headaches and black eyes and rags. Oaths and curses flowed over my tongue like water over a wheel, but it is all changed now; old things have passed away, and all things are new. I am determined now to fight my way to the land of glory. Hallelujah!"

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### Combined Minutes of Conference.

A Letter From the Secretary Concerning the Same.

Eburne, B.C., Aug. 21st, 1899.

Mr. Editor,—I would like, through the "Recorder," to call the attention of the brethren, both lay and clerical, to our Conference minutes. As will be seen by the "Guardian," the minutes of the seven Western Conferences—Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, Montreal, Manitoba and Northwest, and British Columbia—have been published in one volume, and is being sold at 50 cents per volume; which is very little more than half what the B. C. minutes alone cost last year. In order to get the combined minutes at that low figure our Conference, through its secretary, became responsible to the Book Room for two hundred copies. That is not a large number for this Conference at that low figure. One copy will be sent to each minister and charged to his account. Now, what about the balance? If they were equally distributed among the stations, circuits and missions, there would not be 3 for each. It ought not to be a hard matter to dispose of more than that number. Brethren, let us bring the matter before our people, and have their orders sent in as soon as possible to Dr. Briggs. It will be 50 cents well spent by our lay brethren to find out what is being done in our various Conferences.

A. N. MILLER,  
Acting Secretary.

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### Financial District Meeting.

Vancouver District.

The Vancouver District held its financial meeting in Homer Street Church, Vancouver, on Tuesday afternoon, August 14th. Rev. R. Whittington, M.A., B.Sc., President of Conference, and Chairman of the District, presided. Most of the ministerial members of the District were present, and also Bros. D. Donaldson, Homer street, J. W. Galloway, Mt. Pleasant, and James Tuttle, Richmond, of the lay brethren.

Rev. D. D. Moore, late of China, who has come to the Province to engage in the Chinese work in connection with our Conference, was introduced. In a few words Bro. Moore expressed his pleasure in meeting with the members of the District, and hoped he would have their sympathy and co-operation in his work.

Rev. I. B. Wallwin, B.A., of the London Conference, Ont., was introduced to

the brethren, and made a few remarks. Bro. Wallwin was an old college chum of some of the brethren, and it was a real pleasure to see his face once more.

The usual routine of business was transacted. The needs of the various missions were carefully looked into, and the necessary appropriations asked for from the General Board.

The lists of assessments for the Superannuation and General Conference Funds were presented and revised.

It was decided that local arrangements be made for Missionary and Educational meetings.

A. N. MILLER,  
Fin. Secy.

### KAMLOOPS DISTRICT.

The financial district meeting of the Kamloops district of the Methodist Church was held on Wednesday, August 10th, in the Methodist Church, Revelstoke. The meeting convened at nine o'clock, with the Rev. C. Ladner, of Kamloops, presiding. The financial standing of each circuit and mission in the district was thoroughly canvassed and grants of aid from the Missionary Society were recommended to the weaker charges. Kamloops and Revelstoke congregations are self supporting. Revelstoke having agreed to assume this standing during the past year. Reports of the various missions were encouraging, and the year ahead is looked forward to confidently on the part of the Methodist Churches.

The Twentieth Century Fund scheme was discussed and the suggestion of the president of the Conference in a recent letter were adopted. Sermons and addresses will be given on Sunday, the 8th of October, and canvass will be made of every field in the district for subscriptions. Nearly every church in the district is more or less in debt, and it was remarked that it would be a great blessing if, as a result of this appeal, every church could be freed from debt this conference year.

The Chairman and Secretary were appointed to correspond with Rev. Goro Kaburanga, of Vancouver, with a view to secure a visit from him in the interest of the missionary work. There is also need of a visit from him for the sake of the large numbers of Japanese employed on the C. P. R. in the mountain division.

### COLUMBIAN COLLEGE.

The College will re-open on Monday, September 18th, 1899, and will be prepared to furnish students with excellent instruction in all branches. Candidates prepared for all grades of certificates, also for Matriculation in Arts, Law and Medicine.

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### KOOTENAY DISTRICT.

The F. D. M. of the Kootenay District met this year in Trail on Monday, August 9th. By considerable effort on the part of our esteemed Chairman all the Ministerial members were present but one, Rev. B. Hedley Balderston, of Greenwood, not being able to attend. With the exception of Trail, Kaslo and New Denver, which are now suffering from the effects of the recent eight-hour legislation, all the Missions gave a splendid report for so young a country.

Sandon is no longer a mission, having declared its majority and become self sustaining, with a membership of but 19, we doubt if this record could be surpassed by any other appointment in Canada. Cranbrook, too, though formed at the last Conference as a mission, takes a forward stand as to shut out the probability of missionary aid. Bro. Stillwell, of Fernie, gives a good and hopeful report, though building Church and parsonage will keep his people busy for some time. Three or four other places in the East Kootenay are raising the Macedonian cry, and we long for a Paul to stand up and answer it. In the Boundary country the promise is just as great. Bro. Bradshaw, of Grand Forks, walked sixty miles to be at the F. D. M., arriving but half an hour late for the meeting, and then left the same evening for home. The first day he walked forty-five miles; so you see the days of heroes are not past.

Not one seemed to think of the hardships to be endured. The joy of being ambassadors for God to a needy humanity alone being the burden of their hearts. In the evening a service was held to the joy of all.

Bro. Calvert, of Trail, needs much substantial sympathy, his membership has, by removals, decreased to 4, and these may leave him at any time; still he toils on; his mission is the work of God.

J. R., Fin. Sec.