

The varied and important interests involved were carefully considered ; mutual concessions were made ; and eventually a basis of union was agreed upon which commanded the almost unanimous consent of all concerned, providing as it did, not for the absorption of one church by another, but for an union, on equal terms, of several independent branches of Methodism.

The results of the movement, thus far, have fully met the anticipations of its warmest friends. The union is hearty in spirit and thorough in organization. The new elements have blended most harmoniously. Lay delegation, now fully recognized, has proved a valuable aid in the legislative work of the Church. The spirit of harmony and brotherly love has prevailed, to a marked degree, at all the sessions of our Conference. Former distinctions have been forgotten ; and all hearts have been animated by the spirit of the apostolic doctrine,—“ One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren.”

We have been favored, during the greater part of our Conference Session, with the presence of a distinguished Minister of your body, the Rev. J. H. Robinson. Although not officially appointed to represent your Conference, we have been glad to listen to his brotherly words on our Conference platform, as well as his able ministrations on the Lord's day ; and we trust that his continued presence in this country may tend to strengthen the fraternal bond between us and you.

It would be impossible, within the limits of an official address, to give a detailed account of our work as a Church. Suffice it to say that, with a field of operation extending from Newfoundland and the Bermudas to British Columbia—with an intelligent and rapidly increasing population—with perfect religious freedom in the prosecution of our work, with more than one thousand ministers and preachers, not unworthy, we trust, of the honored name they bear, with more than one hundred thousand church members, devotedly attached to our doctrines and usages, with educational institutions of various grades, and for both sexes, providing a thorough education for our sons and daughters,

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