

If her success has been so great under disadvantages unparalleled, I cannot but believe, that, with the same divine blessing, and upon a basis of membership less narrow and more scriptural, the Wesleyan Church, would, beyond all precedent, increase her usefulness, and enlarge her borders.

I will not permit myself to dwell upon associations and recollections which cannot be expressed in words, any more than they can be obliterated from the memory, or effaced from the heart. Though I retire from councils in the deliberations of which I have been permitted to take a part during more than twenty-five years, and relinquish all claims upon funds to which I have contributed for a like period, I should still deem it my duty and privilege to pray for the success of the former, and continue my humble contributions to the latter; while I protest, in the most emphatic way in my power against shutting the doors of the church upon thousands to whom I believe they should be opened, and against making that essential and divine, which, as Mr. Wesley says, "is merely prudential, not essential, not of divine institution." I hope the day is not remote when the Wesleyan Church will be as scriptural in her every term of membership as she is in her doctrines of grace and labours of love.

I remain, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your affectionate brother,

And faithful servant,

(Signed)

E. RYERSON.

The REV. ENOCH WOOD,
President of the Wesleyan Conference.

P.S.—It may be proper to state that the principal part of this letter was written several weeks since, but was laid aside for further consideration until now.

(Signed) E. R.

II.—REPLY TO THE FOREGOING LETTER.

(COPY)

TORONTO, January 4th, 1854.

REVEREND AND DEAR DOCTOR,—

To accept the enclosed documents would be assuming a responsibility at variance with my judgment and affections. If the proposal