

THE LATE PROF. WINCHELL, LL.D.

A friend writes enquiring if Prof. Winchell, whose articles have appeared in the METHODIST MAGAZINE, is a believer in the Bible and in Christianity. We beg leave to state, that the late Prof. Winchell, LL.D., was a staunch believer in the Bible and Christianity, and a stalwart defender of both. He was, up to the day of his death, a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States; we believe an official member. He was the head of a Methodist guild of several hundred Methodist students in the University at Ann Arbor, Michigan. The contributions of Professor Winchell referred to were reprinted from *The National Repository*, the official magazine of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, edited at the time these articles were first published by, we think, either Dr. Abel Stephens, or Dr., afterwards Bishop, Wylie. Prof. Winchell's views, properly understood, in no wise invalidate any of the teachings of holy Scripture, but we think intensify our conceptions of the infinite wisdom and goodness of God in the physical, as well as the moral universe. Prof. Winchell was a scientist of most distinguished eminence, and reflected lustre both upon his church and country.

METHODISM AND THE ROYAL
BEREAVEMENT.

The Rev. Dr. Stevenson, President of the Wesleyan Conference, England, fitly voiced the feeling of the Connexion when, preaching at Nicholson Square Church, Edinburgh, he said :

We cannot forget, my brethren, that we meet to-day under the shadow of a national bereavement. In our old island story many tragedies have occurred, more terrible, and many laden with graver political consequences than this; but, so far as I know, never one more pathetic. The heart of the nation has not been so deeply moved since that Sabbath morning, thirty-one years ago, when from a thousand pulpits the death of the Prince Consort

was announced. To-day the very fact that no grave political complications are likely to arise from the young Prince's death leaves the mind of the nation free to dwell upon the purely domestic aspect of the sad event. It is pleasant to remember to-day that he who lies dead yonder was not only Prince in rank, but a pure and simple gentleman. Where he was known best no scandal has ever been connected with his name, and no stain to-day rests upon his memory. He inherited much of the gentle winsomeness which has made his mother the best beloved woman in this island, and much of that genial kindness which has won for his father the hearty affection of all who know him personally. And I rejoice to-day to remember that in the comparatively few public duties which he has discharged the young Prince showed a marked interest in the welfare of the poor, and especially in efforts made for the benefit of poor lads. For his own sake we mourn the loss of a simple-hearted and pure-minded gentleman. But our sorrow is more for others than for him. We cannot forget the parents whose hearts are wrung with a grief as real and deep as though they were of rank far less illustrious. We think of the mother and sisters, from whose intimate love he was not removed by barriers of rank, and to whom he was not the heir presumptive, but "brother Eddie." We think of the venerable Queen, whose hold upon the affections of the nation is not only the statesmanship, which will make her one of the remarkable women of history, nor the respect for the constitutional system of which she is the honoured head, but even more the life which she led, amid all the splendours of her great position, as true daughter, true wife and true mother. And not least does the heart of the nation move in sympathy towards the bonnie and gentle girl, one short week ago occupied with all the pleasant excitements of her anticipated happiness, and now widowed in heart before the marriage blessing had been pronounced upon her life. What a lesson to us all is here as to the vanity of human hopes. But we dwell not now upon this, our hearts have now room only for pity and for prayer. To her has come, not only the loss of the proudest position in the world, into which she was just about to step, but what I doubt not she feels most acutely now, the loss of that