## • The Basis of Methodist Union .

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Children's Fund, having no invested capital in any of the Churches, was relegated to the first General Conference, to make such arrangements as might be deemed expedient. In regard to the Contingent Fund, the Methodist Church of Canada alone has invested capital, and as this belongs to the three Western Conferences of that Church, it was left to these Conferences to decide what should be done with it; and any other action was referred to the first General Conference. The Missionary Fund was not so easily adjusted, as in one case there was a defict of \$10,000, and in another of over \$18,000 It was agreed, however, that in both cases the debt should be paid before the Union was consummated, and thus the obstacle was removed.

As might have been expected, the Superannuation Fund presented the most serious difficulties. That men should be very sensitive in regard to a fund that made provision-scant, it is true, but real-for their old age, was but natural; and the most exhaustive discussions took place before a basis was reached. Sub-Committees met, and pondered, and reported, but their reports did not seem to meet the case; proposition after proposition was made, discussed, and laid on the table; but at length the Committee saw, with tolerable clearness, all that the discussion involved, and embodied its judgment in a series of resolutions that for comprehensiveness and fairness must commend themselves to every unbiased mind. These resolutions require that the other uniting Churches shall provide an amount of invested capital equal, in proportion, to that now held by the Methodist Church of Canada; that income arising from collections and subscriptions in the congregations, and the annual subscriptions of ministers, shall be used in meeting payments to all claimants; that income arising from the invested capital now held by the Methodist Church of Canada for this fund, and from the Toronto Book Room, shall be used exclusively for the benefit of superannuates of that Church. until such' time as the other uniting Churches equalize their Book Room assets and Superannuation Fund securities with those of the said Methodist Church of Canada; that no change shall be made in regard to the claims of any minister now holding a permanent superannuated relation ; and that if in any