

deaths, removals, &c., we are able to report a net increase of 231 members for the year. To God be all the glory.

9th.—During the past year we have called into the Ministry two young men from among ourselves, and received two worthy and well-tried Ministers from England, viz., Brothers Crompton and Rowe, who are a great acquisition to our Ministerial staff.

10th.—As it regards our union with the Parent Body in England, the bond is waxing stronger and stronger; and as a proof of our increasing love toward it, and our confidence therein, we have kindly requested the British Conference to grant us Sixteen additional Missionaries, and Two Thousand Pounds, that we may be able to respond to the Macedonian cry that is reaching us from different parts, and enter those various openings that are presenting themselves unto us, and thus push our conquests East, West, North and South.

And now, dear Brethren, having given you a brief sketch of our proceedings during the sittings of Conference,—suffer us to remind you of your high privileges and sacred duties as Christians. Peter saith in one of his epistles, “Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people,—that ye should show forth the praise of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light; which in times past were not a people, but are now the people of God; which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.” Therefore, dearly beloved, as strangers and pilgrims, keep up the life and power of religion in your own souls; never suffer your religion to be of a doubtful character, but let your light shine with increasing lustre, and your love to God and man burn with an intenser flame. And that this may be your experience, it will be necessary to pay a strict regard to your closet duties. “Enter your closet” statedly and frequently,—God will see, will meet you there, and will not fail to reward you openly. One great defect in the Christian Church at the present day, is the neglect of frequent, fervent private prayer. It was the love of private prayer that the great strength of the sainted and venerable Clowes, and our fathers, now with God, lay. It was by this means that they became so mighty in public, and were enabled to achieve such glorious victories. It was in close communion with God in the holy Mount, that Moses obtained the glory that shone so resplendently in his countenance when he came down among the people.

We feel fully persuaded, dear Brethren, that if you keep open the intercourse between your souls and God by secret

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