

whom God has called to the work of the Christian Ministry.—The continued success of all these educational institutions—one in interest and aim, and one in religious oversight and character, and established to meet the wants of the Church, and the demands of the age, as they have already so nobly done, depends upon the liberality and co-operation of the members of the Church throughout the bounds of the General Conference. If “wisdom and knowledge are to be the stability of the times” in the best ages of the Church and the world, it becomes the Church, as a duty of the highest patriotism as well as of the noblest Christian philanthropy, to see that the “wisdom and knowledge” taught in the academy and the college recognizes God in nature as in Revelation—the all and in all of the true progress in society, and of man’s highest development and happiness.

(4.) In the constitution of the Book Committee, with its sections and branches, under the management of which our periodicals are published and our various religious and general literature provided, the best provision has been made for keeping all the members of the Church informed in regard to every department of our various work at home and abroad, as also the operations of piety and benevolence in other Christian Churches, and for supplying our people, young and old, with a choice and varied selection of religious and general literature. I know of no other Church in the Dominion which has made so complete and comprehensive a provision for supplying the intellectual wants of its members and adherents, upon truly Christian principles, by its educational institutions, its periodicals, its religious, scientific and general literature; and I fervently hope and pray that all the members and friends of the Methodist Church will avail themselves to the utmost of their power of the advantages thus accessible to them.

(5.) The General Conference, both Ministers and laymen, as on other subjects, has expressed a very decided opinion on the subject of Temperance, and has strongly recommended legislation to suppress the manufacture and traffic of spirituous liquors, and thus lessen as far as may be done by statute law and its administration, the dreadful evils of intemperance, while it urges those religious and moral suasions—the primary and potent instruments of moral reform—upon all the members of the Church, and all the friends of humanity, to give their example and influence in favour of abstinence from intoxicating drinks. As law in a free country is but the embodiment of public opinion; so public opinion must be in advance of law.—It becomes therefore, the duty of every Christian and philanthropist to create and strengthen by his example and influence, both within and without the Church, a sound public opinion on the subject of temperance, and the evils of intemperance—the