

himself. While not possessing the fine artistic sense of Tennyson or Longfellow, he surpassed them both in moral earnestness of spirit, in arousing moral indignation at wrong and in calling forth deepest sympathy for the wronged. His anti-slavery poems did much to hasten the overthrow of that "sum of all villainies," American slavery. Rude might be the rhythm, but an indignant heart-beat throbbed in every line. Like one of his own New England mountain streamlets, his songs leaped into life from the stern rock of his granite nature. His Quaker austerity, like an upland meadow, blossomed into beauty in the songs which sprung like buttercups and daisies in the wayside path of daily life. The Inner Light illumined his soul as he sat, like Elijah, in the silence, listening to the still, small voice of God in his soul. In the next number of the MAGAZINE we shall devote a special article to the genius of the poet Whittier, and shall present a thoughtful study of his poems by his sincere friend and admirer, the late President Nelles, of Victoria University.

NEED OF CONSOLIDATION.

The last census of the United States enumerates some 150 different religious denominations in that country. In this diversity the Methodists have over twenty. Mr. Porter, the census commissioner, makes in this connection the following remarks: "The census returns point out the necessity of concentrating the religious forces of the country. They show the need of fewer branch associations and greater unity. You can no more carry on God's business in a slipshod, unsystematic manner than you can conduct a large railroad company or Government bureau or department successfully, with all sorts of petty divisions and branches, each setting up feeble machinery of its own instead of falling in line and marching in step with the grand procession."

It is cause for congratulation that

the Methodists in Canada have set such a good example for the whole world as to the practicability of union and its blessed results.

EXTENSION OF BUSINESS.

With his characteristic enterprise and energy the indefatigable Book Steward of our Toronto house, during his recent visit to Great Britain, was enabled to make arrangements whereby in connection with one other house, the old and reputable Copp, Clark Company, he becomes the Canadian representative of one of the greatest and best known publishing houses in the world, the London Religious Tract Society. The imprint of this house on any work is a guarantee of the unimpeachable religious character of the book, and of the high-class standard of mechanical and artistic excellence with which it is produced. We think no house in the world has contributed more to the popularization of wholesome religious literature. Not only has it issued countless volumes for the million, it has also a catalogue of high-class standard works for the scholar, the critic, and the cultured reader, as, for instance, Sir William Muir's "Rise, Progress, and Fall of the Caliphate," reviewed elsewhere. This important extension of business is but one evidence of the growth of our connexional publishing house.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF TORONTO UNIVERSITY.

We congratulate our old friend and classmate, Professor Loudon, on his elevation to the chair of President of his *Alma Mater*. His long career as a student, tutor and professor has been one of marked distinction. He brings to the duties of his high office great force of character, a wide and thorough culture and a special prominence as an original investigator in his own department, that of "mathematical physics," as it is now called—one of the most important departments of a modern university.