

and laymen to proceed with the proper steps. We are sure that even now there are among us enough of both sexes needing the advantages which these schools would provide, who would enter as students, to enable the work to begin with a very respectable attendance. We ask, therefore, your prayers for the success of this movement, and your hearty sympathy and support in making it a complete success.

The religious care of childhood, the training of our offspring for Christ, and for his church, is another matter that has received our prayerful consideration, and which we urge upon your attention. Let our earliest teachings be of Christ. Let the children learn early in life that they belong to God, and that among their first conscious acts should be that of consecration to his active service. And it is right that they should be taught to venerate the religion of their fathers. It is no more productive of filial affection and piety towards God, than it is consistent with truth, for them to gather the notions and affectations that can find no good society in the church in which their fathers walked. To adorn human society with the beauty of devout piety, and of all outward purity, is an ambition worthy the noblest spirit in any denomination. Let us remember that the condition and prosperity of our church in the future must not depend upon recruits from without, but upon the spiritual care of our own families.

We are constrained to ask you to unite with us in the effort to promote the great temperance movement in the highest sense of the word. As a church we have aimed to be a total abstinence society. We recognize with gratitude the rapid advancement being made by these principles. We pray that speedily over all this land there may cease to be any legal sanction for the manufacture and sale of anything that can intoxicate.

We recognize with gratitude the progress made by the movement for the union of the four Methodist bodies in Canada. The shadows of doubt as to the possible consummation of this object are fast being lifted, and before the end of the present month we confidently expect the last affirmative vote to be taken which is necessary to the assembling of the first general conference of the united body early