

efforts? Hence we cannot too strongly urge upon our friends and adherents a contrary policy. Receive your ministers in love. Give them a welcome—give them your prayers, your co-operation, your support.

Remember too, beloved, that our ministers are supposed to live by and be supported in their work. God has given us, as a Conference, to provide the *men*. He has given you to provide the *means*. If the obligation rest upon us to provide the men to administer for your spiritual wants, it equally rests upon you to provide the means necessary for the relief of their temporal wants.

While we acknowledge the obligation and endeavor to discharge it, we urge upon you an acknowledgement, a feeling, a *doing*. We have confidence in you brethren; though we thus speak. You have sustained us in the past, you will not forsake us in the future.

Amid all our discouragements we can say "God is with us." Our cause, *our* Methodism is advancing.

While two have sheathed their swords during the year and gone home for crowning, *eleven* have entered the ranks, received their commissions, drawn their swords and are ready for battle. To God be all the praise. Our prayer is, let yours be, "may God help them to do valiantly." Let your prayers and your efforts go together, and "victory will turn on Israel's side."

Many of our men will go to missionary fields. We regret to say, such are not adequately supported. Our missionary treasury is low. Hence we cannot, as we wish, relieve the wants of the missionary. This fund, you are aware, is created and kept replenished by the voluntary contributions of our people.

The past year has been one of drouth and scantiness. While we know this, and acknowledge that we were somewhat prepared for diminished supplies, we feel nevertheless that it is wrong that it should be so. It argues distrust in Him who clouds and clears the sun, and withholds and gives the early and latter rain. To retrench from God's treasury is to retrench where we should not, and give cause—just and deserved—for God to withhold the more, and make our necessities the sterner. Let us all profit by His recorded dealings with His people of olden time. To be so trustful in God as to be willing to appropriate of His means in our hands, willingly and without stint, for him and His cause in unpropitious times, is to evidence faith. This pleases Him and insures a blessing.

Efforts put forth in any direction, for the glory of God, the prosperity of Christ's cause and the improving our race, should always receive your sympathy, support and effort.

Let us enumerate. The Bible and the Tract cause and Societies should be encouraged and supported. Help, all possible, in their circulation. They have one object—the spread of truth, the uprooting of error, and the evangelisation of the world. Every true christian will rejoice in their prosperity.

Again, do not forget that the exclusion of the drunkard from