

Persuaded of your devoted and intelligent attachment to the Church, the ministrations of which have, by the grace of God, put you among His regenerate children, and nurtured you into your present state of maturity, it were no just matter of surprise, if at this great transition crisis, you should indicate some anxiety to see such guards thrown around our infant Organization, as might effectually shield it against the influence of erratic minds and innovating theories; and thus effectually preclude the apprehension which you might otherwise not unreasonably entertain, lest that sacred cause which is to you dearer than life, should deteriorate in hands unused to wield the influential powers with which they are now entrusted. We fully appreciate your firm and filial attachment to the doctrines and institutions of Methodism; and we deeply sympathize with your solicitude for its perpetuation among us in unimpaired integrity and efficiency. If we imagined for a moment, that the change in our ecclesiastical position would jeopard the cause which it is designed to elevate and advance, instead of desiring it as a valuable boon we should strongly deprecate it as a heavy calamity. But on that head we have no fears. Precautionary securities the most satisfactory, against so disastrous a contingency, are interwoven with the whole arrangement. We may here appropriately advert to the more prominent of them: There is, then, in the first place, the exclusive right accorded to the British Conference—so long as it shall see fit to exercise that right—to appoint, from year to year, the President of ours. In the Parent Conference, moreover, is vested the power of *Veto*, in respect to any measure that may be adopted by our Conference, within twelve months from the time of the introduction of such measure; and in case it shall be disallowed within that period by the English Conference, its legality and force shall be thereby superseded. In this prudential provision alone, you possess every guarantee which the collective wisdom and watchful care of the Parent Conference can confer, that all our doctrinal and disciplinary peculiarities, as a section of the Christian Church, shall be conserved inviolate,—peculiarities in the development and adoption of which, whether by our revered Founder, or subsequently by the Conference to