

their elders are engaged in the consecutive study of the Word of God, and the ablest biblical scholars of the age employ their best talent in the elucidation of divine truth for the instruction of the little child. Thus shall the rising generation be better equipped for the battle of life than any of its predecessors; and in the words of life implanted in the soul possess an antidote against the malaria of skepticism which empisons the air.

We shall endeavour to make this Magazine, as one of its most important functions, contribute to the better comprehension of the Holy Scriptures. Arrangements are being made for a series of exegetical articles which we believe will be of interest and profit, not merely to our brethren of the Christian ministry, but to all thoughtful readers. We hope also that an increased stimulus will thus be given to the study of the Word of God, convinced that nothing will more conduce to the improvement of the understanding and the formation of a noble Christian character.

THE RECENT CONFERENCES.

THE meeting of the several Annual Conferences of the Methodist Church of Canada, has been anticipated as presenting occasions of great interest. Those Conferences, so far as at the time of the present writing they have met, have not disappointed that anticipation. In these assemblies the result of the year's labours is gathered up; and the effects of our recent ecclesiastical changes are strikingly manifested. One of the strongest impressions on entering any of these Conferences is that caused by the conspicuous absence of many brethren whom we have been in the habit of annually meeting. This is a privation which all deeply feel and regret, and the regret is intensified by the thought that in many cases, seldom, perhaps never, shall the companions in toil and trial and triumph of many years meet again on earth. Many tender recollections of bygone gatherings are awakened and many a pang is felt on account of the severance by the stern logic of events of life-long friends.