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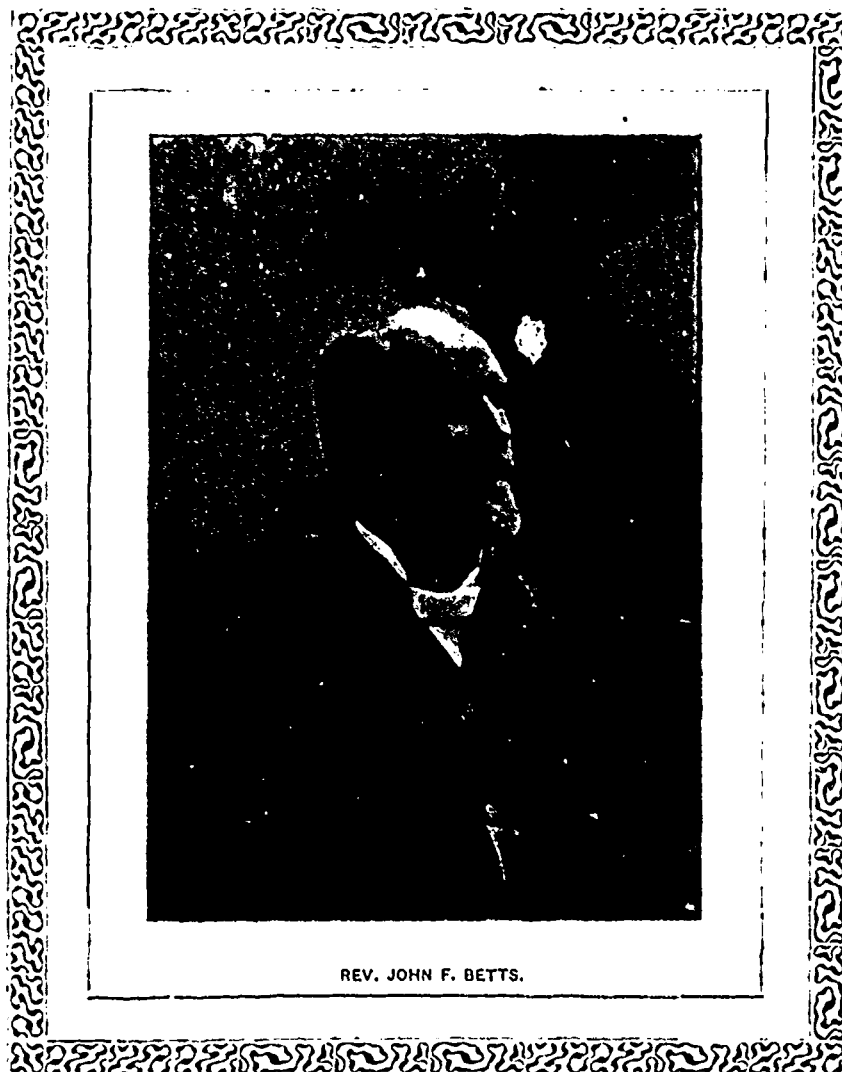
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The genial and sympathetic countenance presented with this sketch will be readily recognized by our readers in almost all parts of the Conference, and by many far beyond our Conference boundaries, for our beloved brother has seen a great deal of Methodism from one end of the Dominion to the other.

Bro. John F. Betts was born on the old Wallace Circuit in Cumberland County, N. S., from which so many brethren have gone out into the work. He is of U. E. Loyalist descent, both his grandfathers having enlisted for the defence of the old flag at the beginning of the revolutionary war, and fought to its close. He came of Methodist parents also, his mother, whose godly life undoubtedly had much to do with young John's own conversion, which took place at the age of seventeen, having been a member of that church for about 70 years. He was educated at Mount Allison, Sackville, N. B., after which he taught school for several years near his old home. It was in 1870 that the Q. O. Board of Pugwash Circuit showed their wisdom and foresight by heartily recommending him for the ministry, and the same year their good judgment was confirmed by the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Eastern British America, who received the candidate upon probation.

He now returned to the University to complete his course, but on account of the "exigencies of the work" was called out by the Conference the next year to a circuit before his graduation had been reached. His first circuit was Parrsboro, N. S., where he served with much acceptance for three years under the successive superintendence of Revs. Wm. Alcorn and D. B. Scott. On leaving Parrsboro he was received into full connection and ordained at the last session of the Conference of Eastern British America, which was held in Charlotte-town, P. E. I., in 1874. At this Conference the union of the Wesleyan and several other Methodist churches took place and the E. B. A. Conference, which, as its name implied, included the whole of Eastern British America, was organized in



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the formation of the three Conferences of the Maritime Provinces as they now exist. He was therefore present at the organization of the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference, of which he thus became a member, and in which he labored during eight years following, occupying in turn Salisbury, Summerside and Sussex Circuits. On each of these fields he was permitted to reap rich harvests of souls gathered into the Kingdom of God.

It was while on the Salisbury Circuit in 1876 that what Bro. Betts has been known to ever regard as next to salvation, God's choicest gift to him, was received—he was married that year to Miss Alice A. Chesley, whose acquaintance he had made when at the University, where after graduation she held for two years the responsible position of chief preceptress of the ladies' college. Mrs. Betts

has shown herself a worthy help-meet indeed, useful and well-beloved, on all the Circuits where her husband has been stationed.

In 1882, in obedience to the call of the Church, our brother came west to Manitoba, where he was stationed on the following fields: Birtle, Brandon, Winnipeg (Zion Church), and Calgary. He was appointed a member of the College Board in that Conference, and took a deep interest in the resuscitation of Wesley College. Here, too, he was first elected Chairman of a District and first appointed to the General Board of Missions, by whose special request, given at their meeting in Halifax, he undertook to visit during February and March, 1886, the Indian Missions on Lake Winnipeg as far north as Norway House. He thus got experience of what is involved in our