

the new settlers and the Indian tribes of the vast Northwest, and the Roman Catholics of the Province of Quebec, such proofs of the presence of the Holy Spirit have been seen as leave no alternative but to press forward in the paths already entered. Let us add, that our Educational Institutions, presided over by able men, are sending forth youth well-fitted for our pulpits, and others equally prepared to do good service to the Church and the world, in other spheres.

Certain events call us at once to look back upon the past and forward into the future. In the eastern part of the Dominion, centennial memories of the going forth of William Black, the first Methodist itinerant of that section, are calling forth grateful gifts; while in the extreme West, the rapidity with which settlers from our older Provinces and from Britain are building up cities and towns, or scattering themselves over the rich prairies, bids fair to tax the energies of our own and all other Churches to their utmost extent, if the image and superscription of Christianity is to be ineffaceably stamped upon the people of these immense provinces at this the plastic period of their history.

Negotiations are in progress for the union of the several branches of Methodism in Canada. Committees from the several sections have already held several harmonious meetings. A strong desire has been expressed for our entrance upon further work with a combined front. Delay may be caused by the consideration of some important points, but the proposed issue cannot be long postponed. Meanwhile, arrangements will be made to prevent any needless rivalry in our new territories.

Beloved brethren are missed from our ranks, because called home. Foremost in the list of these is the first President of our General Conference, the venerable Egerton Ryerson, D.D., LL.D., whose recent departure called forth rare expressions of regard, not from his brethren alone, but from men of all ranks who knew his important influence upon religious equality in this country, his intimate connec-

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