

now ;—I would remind you, however, that the eyes of the whole Methodist Connexion are fixed, and the hopes of the whole Methodist Connexion are depending, on what we are doing to-night. We occupy only one place in our vast Connexion ; but it is the centre of a mighty circumference. Millions of prayers mingle with ours ;—millions of hearts beat with ours ;—and these my beloved brethren, around and before me, are the ministers of the churches and the glory of God. We are now about to receive these beloved young men, by a solemn act of ordination, into the full ministry of our religious community. Brethren, pray for us ! O for that spirit of prayer ! God has been eminently with us through all the services of this Conference ;—hundreds of hearts have been anointed with heavenly oil ;—and God will be with us to-night. I know that hundreds of you are now praying. Prayers commingled arise to God. O for the copious effusion of the Holy Spirit !.....I present to you (said the President, addressing the congregation) these persons present to be ordained elders. Good people, these are they whom we believe God wills us this day to ordain elders ; if after due examination we find not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry. Let us pray—

The President read the Collect—"Almighty God, Giver of all good things," &c. He also read the Epistle, Eph. iv., 7 to 13, and the Gospel, John x. 1 to 16.

Turning to the Candidates, the President next said,—

"I now address myself more particularly to you, who have presented yourselves for this sacred and important office." He then read impressively the Exhortation, beginning, "Ye have heard, brethren," &c.

The President then proceeded to the Ordination Questions, to each of which a distinct and separate answer was required from each candidate, on his name being called over. This proceeding occupied a considerable time.

The President then called upon the audience to lift up their hearts to God while he offered a short prayer on behalf of these young men ; and he devoutly read the prayer, "Almighty God, who has given you this will to do all these things," &c.

The President said—Before we proceed immediately to the solemn act of ordination, by which these young men will be separated to the work of the ministry among us, we will, for a short space address ourselves to the throne of our heavenly Father, in silent prayer ;—these young men for themselves, that God may prepare them for the solemn act, and we praying for them, that God may be specially with them.

A solemn stillness ensued, while the vast assembly was engaged in mental devotion.

The President—We will now offer up, before God, the Ordination Prayer, exercising faith in the promised presence of Christ—"Almighty God and heavenly Father," &c.

The ceremony of "laying on hands" was then proceeded with, the candidates coming in parties of four, to the centre of the platform, and "meekly kneeling on their knees." The President, Ex-President and Secretary, as in former years, laying their hands upon the head of every candidate, together with two of the other preachers. In this duty, the following Ministers, as far as we observed, took a part :—Messrs. Reece, Atherton, Buckley, Dr. Hannab, Messrs. Morley, Stuart, Leach, Rogers, Taylor, Davis, Grindrod, M. Wilson, Waugh, Anderson, Waddy, Beecham, Clegg, B. Slater, S. Jackson, Dr. Bunting and Messrs. Garrat and Pilter. Each of the can-

didates, on the imposition of hands, was addressed by the President in the usual form—"Mayest thou receive the Holy Ghost" &c ;" after which he delivered to each one a copy of the Bible, saying, "Take thou authority to preach the word of God," &c.

The proceedings were conducted with great order and solemnity ; and when all the candidates had been ordained, after a few words from the President, the 443d Hymn (beginning at the 3rd verse,) "I will the precious time redeem," was sung.—Messrs. Joseph Taylor and Stewart engaged in prayer,—the benediction was given by the President,—and finally the whole congregation united in singing "Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah."

THE CHARGE.

On Friday evening the charge to the newly ordained Ministers was delivered in the Conference Chapel, by the Rev Thomas Jackson, Ex-President. The services commenced by singing the 429th Hymn, "Behold the servant of the Lord ;" after which the Ex-President engaged in prayer. He then read the following portions of scripture—Acts xv., verse 17 ; to the end ; 1 Tim. vi., verse 8, to the end ; 2 Tim. ix., verse 1 to verse 18. The 750th Hymn—"O happy day that fixed my choice"—having been sung, the names of the young men were called over, and they remained standing in the front row of the reserved seats, during the Address of the Ex-President, which occupied an hour and a-half.

This amiable discourse (which was delivered extempore, and with great energy and feeling) was founded on Col. iv. 17,—"And say to Archippus, Take heed in the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it."—Addressing himself to his "dear Brethren," the Ex-President said, at the commencement—

In accordance with the usages of our religious community and in accordance with the notice given to the public, I appear in this place to address you on the deeply interesting occasion of your admission into "full Connexion" with the Methodist Conference, and your solemn ordination to the Christian ministry. I apply myself to the task under the influence of mixed, and indeed conflicting emotions. On various accounts I rejoice "with exceeding great joy ;" and yet, at the same time, there are thoughts arising in my heart which produce a sensation even approaching to sadness on your account. I rejoice in your conversion to our Lord Jesus Christ, and in your personal salvation from the guilt and power of sin,—a salvation which you have obtained by faith in his perfect atonement ;—I rejoice in the religious stability you have been enabled to maintain from the time of your conversion ;—I rejoice in the manner in which you have fulfilled the period of your ministerial probation, so that you have been received to take a part in this holy ministry by your brethren and fathers in the gospel, who are fully satisfied of your divine call to this work and office ;—I rejoice greatly in consequence of that blessed prospect of ministerial usefulness which lies before you, and the prospect too which is presented to you of receiving at the hands of your almighty Saviour and Judge that crown of glory and righteousness which shall never fade away. But, when I remember the solemn weight and responsibility which will rest upon you from this time ;—when I reflect upon the temptations by which you will be assailed from various quarters ;—when I reflect upon the difficulties you will frequently meet with as attending the discharge of the important duties to which you are called ;—and when I reflect upon the fearful consequences of failure in the great work of the Christian