

PREFATORY NOTE TO VOL. III.

THESE volumes are the largest books,—the most thoroughly filled up with important matter condensed to the utmost, all secondary matter being put in small type,—sold anywhere for the same price; and yet we have not been able to bring the history so low down in this volume as we desired and expected, simply because the stream has widened so much more as it flowed on than we anticipated. Nevertheless, we have extended it so far as to cover the two greatest crises of Canadian Methodist history—the passing out from under the jurisdiction of the General Conference of the M. E. Church of the United States, and the Union with the Parent Conference in Great Britain.

The author does not expect that his treatment of the latter event—the Union—will please extreme persons on either side of the question to which it has given rise; but he has treated it with the calmness with which he thinks an historian ought to write, and that he has told the honest truth.

He also anticipates as an objection, that he has divided the history of the Union measure,—that is to say, its *inception* at the Conference of 1832, and its *consummation* at the Conference of 1833,—by recording the usual current Connexional events of the Conference year 1832–33, before treating of the reception of the overtures for Union by the British Conference, and the final ratification of the Articles