

Current Topics and Events.

THE ROYAL JUBILEE.

ONE of the most pleasing features in connection with the Queen's Jubilee has been the cordial tone of good feeling which it has called forth throughout almost the whole of the civilized world. The congratulations of the foreign powers by means of their accredited representatives have been strongly endorsed by that unflattering expression of the popular opinion, the foreign press. The following is from the *Journal des Debats*, a French paper, in an article on the Jubilee celebration, "We cordially envy Englishmen, and would give a great deal could we ever be what they are to-day—a people mad with joy and happiness. This universal homage is paid, not only to the Queen, but to the woman who has given an example of two great virtues of royalty—gravity and dignity. Her influence has been great and salutary, and her great merit is that in using her prerogative for the public weal she has never been tempted to strain its exercise."

This expression of good feeling has been especially true with the press of the United States. Notwithstanding the truckling to disloyal Catholic Irish feeling in a few cases, the utterances of the great leaders and moulders of public opinion have been of the kindly character. In the city of New York, one of the most enthusiastic jubilee meetings on the continent was that organized and promoted largely by the energy of that loyal son of Canada, Erastus Winman.

His present mission to his native land—to promote its material prosperity by seeking greater freedom of trade between the two neighbouring and kindred peoples—is calculated, we judge, without in the least sapping our loyalty to the grand old motherland—the mother of us all—to foster peace and friendship throughout this broad continent. Such expressions of international

good will go far to fulfil their own prophecy and to hasten the time—

When the war drum throbs no longer,
And the battle flag is furled
In the parliament of man, the
Federation of the world.

METHODIST REUNION IN ENGLAND.

This great movement is making remarkable progress. Already a large number of the District Meetings of the Wesleyan, New Connexion and other Methodist Churches have pronounced emphatically in its favour. The New Connexion Conference, at its recent session at Stockport, passed by a very large majority a resolution of which the following is the closing sentence: "Believing that the movements towards union are the result of Divine leading and influence, the Conference instructs the annual committee for the ensuing year to maintain an attitude of friendly observation, and to avail itself of any opportunities which may arise to foster and advance the closer fellowship of the Methodist Churches."

This is all the more significant because our old friends, well known in Canada, Dr. Cocker and Mr. Medlicraft, proposed amendments which, while expressing cordial friendship, declined to commit the Conference as in favour of organic union. Dr. Cocker's amendment was rejected by a vote of over two to one, and Mr. Medlicraft's by a still larger majority. Our old Canadian friend, Dr. Watts, did good service to the union cause by his admirable address and by an excellent pamphlet he has written. The tide of fraternal feeling is rising higher and higher and we doubt not that, as was the case in Canada, the union of the Wesleyan and New Connexion Churches will be the prelude to the larger union of all the Methodist Churches in Great Britain.

The success of Methodist union