

excellent confrere, the *Guardian*, have spoken for the most part in terms of commendation of the work and decisions of the Committee.

The question of the hour now is, Union. It is more than probable that some of our readers will not endorse everything in the scheme of the Committee; but it is earnestly hoped that before opposition is made to any portion, that it shall be carefully considered, and that if possible nothing shall be done which may endanger the proposed Union. The greatest good to the greatest number should now be earnestly sought. There never was such a favourable time for accomplishing the unification of Methodism in Canada as the present. Those who have been its advocates for more than a quarter of a century, and have suffered not a little to accomplish it, rejoice greatly at the present aspect of the question.

Of course many fears are entertained respecting the evils that may arise should the Union become an accomplished fact. Some foresee a great surplus of ministers. There may be more than can be employed on the present fields in Ontario, but the union of the Churches will necessarily lead to the division of circuits, and thus places will be provided for a goodly number of ministers. The North-West will provide places for many more; but then comes the question, how will the latter be sustained until their missions become self-sustaining? The writer must confess that here he sees difficulty which cannot be overcome but only by a very large increase of income to the Missionary Fund. It is well known that ministers on Domestic Missions and poor country circuits have for many years past been the great sufferers of our Church. Many of those brethren have had receipts below \$400, and if for a few years, until things somewhat adjust themselves, they are to suffer to a still further extent, we are afraid that the burden would become more than they can really bear. This must not be permitted to happen. No doubt this and other questions will be carefully considered by the first General Conference of the

United Church, and we feel sure that those who may constitute that important ecclesiastical assemblage will be men of understanding who will know what Israel ought to do.

THE DEATH ROLL.

Since our last issue several who were active members in the Church militant have gone to join the Church triumphant. Among others may be named Archbishop Tait, of London, England. He was first known in 1842 as the successor of the famous Dr. Arnold, of Rugby. Then in 1850 he became Dean of Carlisle. In 1856 he was appointed Bishop of London, and during the time he held that important position he was abundant in labours and ever preached in the streets of the metropolis arrayed in his canonicals. In 1868 he was elevated to the highest position in the Anglican Church—the Archbishopric of Canterbury where he remained until called to his reward. It was a curious thing that a Scotchman should be primate of all England.

The Rev. John Hall, a superannuated minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, Canada, departed this life on the 21st ult. He spent 26 years in active service, and during the last 13 years he has sustained a superannuated relation. He was a useful, sincere, earnest, and devoted minister.

Our brethren of the Primitive Methodist Church have been called to mourn the loss by death of the Rev. Robert Pattison, who after a few days illness quitted the scenes of mortality. He had only been 20 years in the ministry and was comparatively a young man. During his early years he was much employed in Home Mission work when he endured many hardships particularly in Muskoka, but, he now rests from his labours and his works follow him.

In our own Church a few have fallen. Rev. Allen Patterson, of Riviere du Loup. He had been but ten years in the active work, during which he gave full proof of his ministry and many years of usefulness were anticipated for him, but the