

Douglas, who is now a prisoner of the providence of God. We hope his valuable life may be spared a few years longer to the Church. During the sessions of Conference, one member who was detained at home was summoned to his long home—the Rev. N. Austin, who was comparatively young in years and also young in the ministry. The Rev. T. G. Williams was elected President, and the Rev. A. B. Chambers, LL.D., Secretary. The Conference needs an increase of labourers, several places being vacant.

The great question of the Conference was, 'Methodist Union,' the debate on which was anticipated with more than ordinary interest. Being the first Conference to be held, the result of the discussion on this momentous question would necessarily have some effect on the Conferences which were still to be held. Men of position and influence were arrayed in opposition to each other in the Conference arena, but they still loved as brethren. For more than two days this question was argued.

The Rev. W. Hansford's resolution rejecting the Basis was lost by a vote of 55 for, to 69 against it; and the Rev. E. A. Stafford's resolution accepting it was carried by a vote of 66 for, to 51 against it.

The London Conference was held in St. Catharines. The section of country comprised in this Conference is not surpassed in the Dominion, hence the people are among the wealthiest of our population. The churches take the lead in all benevolent and church enterprises.

The Rev. W. R. Parker, M.A., and D. G. Sutherland, LL.B., B.D., were elected to the office of President and Secretary respectively. These brethren were College "chums," and now they stand together in the high positions to which they have been elevated by their brethren.

The reports of the various districts indicated a good degree of prosperity; the funds, too, were considerably in advance. One church, Kincardine, which had been a great

burden, was reported to be in easy circumstances, as by a generous effort throughout the various districts some thousands of dollars had been contributed, thus exhibiting very clearly the advantage of the connexional principle—strong churches help the weak.

We cannot give even the merest outline of the able discussion of the Basis of Union. After a debate which lasted from Monday morning, till after midnight on Thursday. Dr. Ryckman's amendment accepting the Basis was lost, and Dr. Williams' amendment rejecting it was carried by a vote of 101 to 88.

The Toronto Conference, from which the Conference in Manitoba is soon to be set off, covers the largest extent of territory. In addition to what it comprises in Ontario it has the foreign missions of Japan and the Province of British Columbia under its care. The new Grace Church in Winnipeg, which is in course of erection, will seat 1700 persons and is to cost \$50,000. The missionary income is largely in advance, and an increase of twenty or more missionaries will be sent to the Northwest, forming a new Conference of about seventy.

The Rev. Geo. Cochran, D.D., was elected President and the Rev. J. S. Clarke, Secretary. The routine business was gone through with great despatch, and most of the Committees got through their business by Monday morning so as to prepare for the Union debate which commenced in the afternoon of that day. A few members of Conference had gone to their long home since 1882, and others were compelled to ask for a superannuated relation. The funds of all the Conferences were reported as being in a good state. Several brethren had been transferred to this Conference.

The public services were all very numerous attended and were of more than ordinary interest. Only six young brethren were present for ordination, though some others were received into full connection; but they are all far away in the mission field. There was a good array of candidates for the ministry, two of