

Pastoral Address.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA.

DEARLY BELOVED

"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you." After another year of toil, conflict and success; we, your representatives in Conference assembled, beg to assure you of our interest in your welfare, both for time and eternity.

The Conference has been one of great peace and harmony, the spirit of love, sympathy and unity pervaded the minds and hearts of all the Brethren. Much deference and respect were paid to the views and feelings of all. One aim appeared to be before every eye—the Glory of God, through the extension and consolidation of our beloved connexion.

The net increase in the membership was found to be 133, after filling a large number of vacancies occasioned by removals and deaths.

The funds of the Church were thought to be in a healthy condition, considering the depression in all financial and commercial circles. Allow us to say, dear friends, that it will require a considerable increase of liberality to sustain our work; much more labour is being expended upon old ground than formerly, consequent upon the division of some stations and the extension of others. To meet these increasing demands, about twenty young men have been called into the work during last year, and at this Conference. These arrangements involve a large amount of outlay, and we trust that on both Circuits and Missions a corresponding amount of liberality will be evinced. Brethren suffer the word of exhortation, while we sympathize with you in your financial difficulties, we ask you to prove the Divine promise in this matter of giving unto the Lord's work. "Bring ye all the tithes unto the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Remember that God is true to His word.

Again, in this age of sentimentalism and cold formality; let us seek a nearness to God, and thereby warm our souls at His altar. There is nothing of such profound importance as a personal consecration of ourselves and our all to God; and the consequent baptism of our souls with

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