

REPLY TO THE BRITISH CONFERENCE.

To the President and Members of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference.

VERY DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—Most gratefully do we acknowledge your parental and affectionate Reply to the Address of our last Conference. We sympathize with you in your unprecedented bereavements, and rejoice in your unparralleled prosperity; and we most devoutly pray, that the light of this blessedness may continue to shine more and more upon you until the perfect day of universal illumination. We have been blessed with peace and harmony in all our societies during the year past. It has been a year of building up what had been previously gathered in by numerous and extensive revivals, rather than of large accessions to our numbers. Our numerical increase is 1138, making a total of church members, 16,039. The work among the Indian Tribes is still on the advance. The Christian converts are, with very few individual exceptions, steadfast, and improving in civilization, in industry, in knowledge, in all the virtues and comforts of christian and domestic life. New openings for the establishment and extension of Missions among these aboriginal inhabitants of our country are presented before us, and the Missionary fields to the north and west are already white to harvest.

The Articles of Union, as amended and unanimously and cordially adopted by your Conference, have been unanimously and cordially agreed to on our part. We do rejoice that a foundation is thus harmoniously laid for the permanent unity of Methodism, and indefinite extension of the work of God, in British North America.

We should have been gratified to have seen our esteemed and excellent friend and benefactor, the Rev. Robert Alder; but we are happy to learn that the appointment which prevented his return to Upper Canada is one which will enable him to serve us perhaps more efficiently than he could have done on this side of the Atlantic.