

ing numerical increase of more than 13,000 Methodist people within the limits of our Conference during the past ten years. Not in a Spirit of vain glorious boasting, but in one of gratitude we record this fact. We are still more thankful for the blessed ingathering of precious souls which we have been permitted to witness year by year, as the reward of our labor and the seals of our ministry. Hundreds in different parts of our Island have been brought to decision for God, and into communion with His church, during the past year. We would give him all the praise. Not unto us O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory for Thy mercy and for Thy truth's sake. The total membership in our societies is now 8721. with 1518 on trial, an increase for the year of 700. We hope however to see still larger accessions and results more nearly commensurate with the efforts that are being put forth.

We now desire to address to one and all words of loving counsel and of warning. Some of you are but babes in Christ needing to be fed with the "sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby." Rejoice, little children, that your sins are forgiven for His name's sake. Be followers of God, and followers of those who through faith and patience now inherit the promises. Remember for your encouragement that the "good shepherd" loves most dearly the lambs of His flock, gathers them with His arms and carries them in His bosom. Some are young men, strong physically and strong in the Lord; and others are fathers in Israel, who have watched with thankful hearts the growth of our Church, and in the days of her weakness contended for and manfully maintained her rights. We still prize the counsels of your matured minds, and your matured piety, and shall hold your memory in grateful recollection when you have crossed over the border land, and are reunited with the many friends of your youth and manhood who have crossed before you.

Dear brethren, we would beseech you to guard against a stationary religion. Our religious life may be, and is, when healthy, and the proper means are used for its increase, one of constant growth and development. The blade, the ear, the full corn in the ear; the grain of mustard seed, the smallest of all seeds but when it is grown the greatest of herbs; these and other metaphors of similar import are used by Christ the Great Teacher as descriptive of it.

Add to your faith, virtue; and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance," etc., is an apostolic injunction. "For if these things are in you and abound they make you that ye shall be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." These things are we believe already in you and they may abound also. A life thus gloriously complete is your undoubted privilege. Such dear brethren is the second blessing, "the second grace," and from thence, from the living root of a new and purified life. "Grow in grace and in knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." No place is so safe or so happy for the soul to dwell in, the secret place of the Most High, under the shadow of the Almighty. Well there and your souls will be watered with the river of life flowing from the throne of God. You will feed on the hidden manna, the bread endureth unto life everlasting.