

place for their ecclesiastical convocations. The Rev. W. Williams was elected to the office of President, a proper reward for one who has so long laboured both in the late New Connexion and also in the Methodist Church of Canada. He is a strong advocate of Methodist Union, and took an active part in all the services which were held in connection with the unification of the Methodist bodies.

The great event of this Conference was the case of Dr. Burns, who, during the year, wrote a letter to the Rev. Dr. Thomas, of Chicago, which had caused some to believe that he was not in harmony with Methodist Orthodoxy. There was a lengthy discussion in the Conference under the head, "Does he believe and teach our doctrines?" and after the most calm and earnest deliberation the majority were of opinion that there was no occasion to believe that Dr. Burns was not in harmony with our doctrinal standards. The discussion was most ably conducted.

Nine young men having completed their probation were ordained to the full work of the ministry. Happily there had been but few deaths among the members of the Conference, and quite a number of young men of promise were received as candidates for the ministry. The funds were all largely in advance of former years, and the prospects of this Conference are of the most cheering character. At no distant day a division into two Conferences will be necessary. The next Conference will be held at St. Catharines.

A considerable number of visitors were present from other Conferences, among others, the Rev. Dr. Douglas, President of the General Conference, who preached the Ordination Sermon, which was regarded as one of Dr. Douglas' best efforts, and for which he received the cordial thanks of the Conference. The Rev. Thomas Crosby was also present as he had been at Montreal, and in every instance he was received with the honour due to him as a most noble, godly, self-denying missionary, whose name stands high on the Church roll.

His sojourn in his native province, and his visits to the churches have awakened an interest in the subject of missions which will not soon be forgotten. He is a true servant of Christ, one on whom the Master has conferred great honour. His appeals have produced satisfactory results so far that there is no doubt but that the hearts of some young men will be fired with sufficient zeal to go to the outposts of civilization where Mr. Crosby has achieved such glorious work for Christ. The friends have responded to his special appeals also, so that he has received more than half the money required, viz., \$4,000 to build a small steamboat to enable him the more readily to visit his distant missions. Contributions to complete that same will be gladly received by the Rev. Dr. Sutherland, Missionary Secretary.

TORONTO CONFERENCE.

This ecclesiastical gathering was held in Elm Street Church, Toronto. Eighteen years had elapsed since the Conference was held in this Church, when the late Rev. W. L. Thornton, M.A. occupied the chair. Many remember still that grand season of religious fervour. Since then 98 ministers who were then connected with the old Canada Conference have died, not a few of whom were then present. The recollection of this produced a saddening effect upon the minds of many attending the present Conference. A large number were present when the roll was called, and, as usual, much interest was felt in the election of President. At length the lot fell on the Rev. Alexander Sutherland, D.D., who, in addition to his onerous duties of the Mission-house, will have to carry the heavy burden of chief minister of all the churches within the bounds of the Conference. The discussions throughout have been distinguished by great frankness, though without acrimony. We do not remember a word that might be considered discourteous. The number of memorials was unusually great, so that the duties of the Committee, to whom