

to heaven and are beyond the power of mischief or harm. Not do the figures include a large number who are ranked as Wesleyans in public estimation; who would return themselves as Methodists to the census enumerators; who, if they are not Methodists, are unchurched and uncovenanted strangers, but who nevertheless do not meet in class, and are therefore not accredited—class meetings being the test of membership there as here. At the beginning of the same period the number of Canadian ministers was 235, but that number has been more than doubled, as we have now 500 in actual work, besides about 100 who are resting after the burden of a long and laborious day. (Hear, hear.) Gauging progress by church accommodation, you may remember that for a million larger population in London Methodism is said to have only about 130 places of worship, whereas in Canada we have no fewer than 1,160, valued at two millions and a half of dollars, or about \$600,000. (Applause.) So thoroughly has Methodism leavened the population, that one-tenth of the people in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec—or, if Quebec be excluded as including principally French Canadians who are Roman Catholics—one-sixth of the population is under the teaching and influence of the well-loved Methodism of our fathers, and on the lowest computation not a week passes without the dedication of a Methodist church to the hallowed purposes of Gospel testimony.

With regard to education, the common school system of Canada is so impartial and comprehensive, that no denominational schools are needed. It is largely the creation of one of our own ministers, the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, to whom God has granted the rare privilege of rearing his own monument, "are perennius," in his life-time. Methodism, however, takes its proper share in the higher education of the Dominion. The University of Victoria College has, besides 106 students in the Preparatory Grammar School, 86 students in arts, 197 in its affiliated schools of medicine, and 26 in its faculty of law; making altogether 384 students under special Methodist oversight; and many of the graduates are earning degrees, good degrees in that wider university of life where the competition is of the keenest, and where the battle is not always to the strong. (Hear, hear.) The institution has been financially crippled during the past few years by the withdrawal of the Government grant on which it mainly depended, at least which has been our principal source of revenue. Now, however, we are appealing to the people for an endowment, and although the response is somewhat tardy, we hope that the amount needed will be realized in a year or two's time. There is a considerable desire to establish, what I am sorry we have not, a theological chair, or, at any rate, provision for the systematic theological instruction of students for the ministry. One feature presented by the Canadian young men has very much impressed me; and, unless my remembrance of the young men on this side of the water has deceived me, it is a matter which some of them might not unprofitably ponder. The young men called to the ministry in Canada are most anxious to be thoroughly furnished for their work, and of late years there have been instances—and it is only in succession to what has happened in previous years—of young men who, after the completion of their probation, have requested the Conference to allow their ordination to be deferred