

that the majority against the Basis in the London Conference will unite with the majorities for it in the other Conferences, and in the other Churches, and make the consummation of Methodist Union in Canada a grand success.

We are assured that there is no difference of opinion among us on the subject of Union *per se*. On that we are all one. The only difference is a difference of opinion as to the best mode of carrying out the measure. But now that the Western Conferences have approved of the present Basis, by a vote of 291 to 198, and that the Eastern Conferences may be expected to approve of it by still stronger majorities, we must accept this vote as the voice of God's providence saying to us, "Go forward!"

We have been greatly pleased at the kind and brotherly character of the debate, with very few exceptions, in the several Conferences; and at the avoidance, with few exceptions, of extreme and harsh utterances. The few warm words uttered or extreme views held, in those exceptional cases, are, we are sure, already overlooked, and we hope will be soon forgotten. We are brethren still. No differences of opinion or of judgment can be permitted to mar the brotherhood. We rejoice and thank God that so many things conspire to bind in closer bonds of Christian fellowship all who love our Lord Jesus Christ, and especially all the members of the great Methodist family. We have no fears—not the slightest—of any disruption among ourselves as the result of this Union

movement. The growth of public opinion on the subject of Christian unity is such that he would be a very bold or a very reckless man, indeed, who would make such a suggestion; and he would have a very small following, and one which would have no public sympathy, but rather universal condemnation. Thank God that the reproach of a divided Methodism, the cause too often of weakness and inefficiency and wasted resources among ourselves, and the occasion of the scorn and upbraiding of the scoffer and the infidel, are about to be removed from us!

Let us then, uniting, bury  
All our idle feuds in dust,  
And to future conflicts carry  
Mutual faith and mutual trust;  
Always he who most forgiveth  
In his brother is most just.

Let us rise to the height of our privilege and of our obligation, and as a united Methodism seek to do our part in conquering this great continent for Christ. Men now living will probably see twenty millions of people in this land. There are enterprises of great pith and moment that will demand all the energies of the united Church. And with ever-increasing urgency comes the wail of the heathen world, "Give us the Gospel." When we think that 240,000,000 subjects of Queen Victoria, are either Pagan or Mohammedan, to say nothing of the rest of the non-Christian world, we must feel that we are called to thrust in our sickles, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe.

---

## RELIGIOUS AND MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

---

BY THE REV. E. BARRASS, M.A.

### THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The past month has been largely occupied with the Annual Conferences, some of which are being held while we are preparing these notes, and others are to follow.

The Montreal Conference was held first. The place of meeting was Ottawa. Most of the members were present, but there was one distinguished brother whose absence all deplored. We refer to Dr.