

intelligence, and scope of enterprise. They have always been noted for working by system, and for accomplishing great enterprises, in worldly as well as in religious matters. An indomitable courage and perseverance, a self reliance, and conscious ability, amounting, in many instances, to self-conceit and self-laudation, are indisputable characteristics of the Presbyterian family. Let it also be observed, that this large and respectable body have not been operating in the world for two centuries and more, without accomplishing something. By no means. They have stamped their own likeness upon much that is now the world's history—past and present; and it would be folly to think of compiling a history of what is to come, without assigning to them a conspicuous place. I cannot, however, at this moment consent to particularize the special benefits which they have conferred upon mankind. Suffice it to say that they are undoubtedly great; and we ought not to think the Lord will overlook it when he comes to have a settlement with his stewards.

MORAVIAN. Of this family I do not simply mean those who assume that as a proper name, but include those of the two or three Mennonist branches, and also the Dunkards, United Brethren, Evangelicals, &c. This whole family is particularly noted for its plainness of attire, simplicity of manners, and general conservative spirit. It is not famous for intelligence nor progress, nor for mingling with the large enterprises and interests of the world; but for universal honesty in all its external transactions, it is perhaps not exceeded by any family in Christendom. It is, however, *proud* of its *plainness*, and vain of its *honesty*. But simplicity of manners and honesty of conduct are virtues of no small account in this day of extravagance, and worldly-mindedness.

METHODIST. This is one of the largest families connected with Protestant Christianity: and although divided into several groups, these divisions are chiefly because of difference of opinions on the politics of the church, and not on account of any radical difference upon what they term the *vitals of religion*—the furniture of the inner temple.

The one peculiar feature for which this family is distinguished beyond all others, is their *zeal*, which they bring from the inner temple. They do not compare with the English Church for learning and research, nor with the Presbyterian for intelligence and a spirit of enterprise, but they exceed them both in zeal and active religious exertion and effort. The untiring zeal of the Methodist church is a model worthy of all imitation. Not such as we now see in our towns, cities, and old settled parts of the country—for we now frequently see in those places, a quite effeminate class of Methodist preachers coming into use. But the zeal to which I refer, is that which was brought into exercise in the infancy of the denomination, and is yet to be seen in the newer portions of our country—more especially in all the American frontier communities. If all the “ministers of the gospel” were as laborious, zealous, self-denying, and spiritually-minded, as were the majority of Methodist preachers a quarter of a century ago, much scandal would be removed from the profession. The zeal of the preacher very naturally infused itself, to a good degree, through