

against God, and in sowing the seeds of remorse and sorrow in after years. For twenty-eight years he has walked in fellowship with God's people and His Church; and to these hallowed associations, we doubt not, he would attribute all the good that he has received or accomplished.

His parents removed to the town of Newburgh, where young Benson received a good education at the Newburgh Academy, and prepared himself for the work of a teacher. In this employment he remained for a few years, at the same time continuing his studies with the principal of the Academy.

The piety and cultivated talent of the young teacher commended him to the notice of the Methodist Church of the place in which he lived, and having undergone the preliminary training in Christian work as a local preacher, he was recommended by the Official Board of the Newburgh Circuit for the Christian ministry. He was "received on trial" in 1863, and made his first acquaintance with the activities of the work in the western extremity of the Canadian peninsula. For four years he travelled successively as junior preacher, according to Cornish's Handbook, on the Romney, Chatham, Windsor, and Sarnia circuits. Having given full proof of his ministry, and passed with credit all the prescribed examinations, he was received into full connexion and ordained at the Hamilton Conference of 1867. He then travelled, as Superintendent, the Ridgetown, Newbury, and Cookville circuits. After one year on the latter, he was invited to the Centenary Church, Hamilton, as colleague of the Rev. W. J. Hunter. He spent three years in Hamilton, the last of which was signalized by the building of the elegant and commodious Zion Tabernacle. He has since gone by invitation, for three years each, to Stratford and St. Thomas.

Our esteemed brother has not been without those marks of the Divine approval which every true-hearted Methodist preacher covets with a godly avarice, as the chiefest of earthly blessings. On every circuit and station on which he has laboured, he has had "seals to his ministry and souls for his hire," and the temporalities, as well as the spiritualities, of the Church have greatly prospered. The printed statement of the trustees of the St. Thomas Church for the past year, for instance, exhibit an addition to the Church of 127 members, and a net increase of 100, and a present membership of 300, which is just double that of