

expressions of confidence in you, it will afford you a profound pleasure to know that you have already proven yourselves that which the venerable Bishop believes you to be, and that you have so spontaneously, though unconsciously, fulfilled his predictions. I will be frank to say, however, that had I doubted the outcome of your deliberations, I would have read his valuable and inspiring letter, and have made such remarks of my own, as would have seemed to me to be necessary, prior to your final action. As it is, I speak simply because I can contain myself no longer.

For the Methodist Church of Canada I share your high regard. Those of her representatives, with whom it has been my privilege to become acquainted, have my esteem and confidence. Together with you I wish that great church "God speed." Nevertheless you did well in doing what you have done.

Christian union among denominations is of two kinds,—the organic and the fraternal co-operative. When among the various denominations of a country there are some which are decrepid, and whose right to a separate existence seems to have ceased, organic union with some stronger body becomes for such a matter of necessity as well as of propriety. The work of the Evangelical Association in Canada is not that of a helpless, hopeless denomination, whose only alternative is absorption into a larger denomination. The Canada Conference is a vigorous, healthful part of a prosperous and flourishing denomination. Her life, her spirit, her organization, her activities, her growth all indicate health and undiminished usefulness. The fact that the accessions to your membership during the past year amount to at least eight per cent of the whole, is as significant as it is encouraging.

Moreover, the Canada Conference is *not* an isolated fragment of a denomination, but immediately back of you and around you stands the Evangelical Association, of which you form an integral part. Her life beats through you, her strength is your strength. In her resources, in her spiritual endowment, in her grand destiny you hold a share and sustain a life interest. And this is one of the many signal blessings which God has granted to our beloved church that her spirit is cosmopolitan enough, her life vigorous enough, and her divine mission apostolic enough to give her a place in every land. National boundaries are no barriers, seas no restriction to her field. Possessing the spirit of Christ, animated by a fervent missionary zeal, preaching the unmixed truth of the Word, her work is international. Already under at least five national flags her people worship the living God, and *these all are one*. Looking forth from Olivet her horizon extends to "all the world."

The Evangelical Association loves the Canada Conference. Not simply for your well-known and highly appreciated liberality in supporting the institutions of the church, but because this Conference is one of her children. Parents do not love a faithful son merely, because of the money he earns and shares with them. Grateful as they are to him for this, their love has a deeper, holier reason—he is their child. In the family circle of the Evangelical Association the Canada Conference is an esteemed and beloved daughter. You are one of us by birth, by choice, by unswerving loyalty, and by the divine will. In her councils you are held in high esteem. Among her representatives in the General Conference and the general boards yours have always held a prominent place in the respect and love of the church. In the editorial sanctum of the *Evangelische Magazin* and the German S. S. Literature sits your—our genial and efficient Thomas. Among the Professors of the U. B. Institut, Prof. S. L. Umbach, a member of this Conference, holds an honored place. One of your faithful laymen, brother L. J. Breithaupt, has been elected a member of the Board of Publication by the General Conference. Once more I say, the Evangelical Association loves the Canada Conference. You are her own offspring.

Uniformity means loss of individuality, and consequent efficiency. No two persons are exactly alike. Into the physical structure of each God has laid a pattern different from that in all the rest. This is equally true of the mind. Intellectually no two persons are exactly alike. There is something in each, which differentiates him from all others. This is called individuality. And this individuality in each,