

different charities in which we have engaged together, I have always felt that they were highly indebted to you for the indefatigable attention that they uniformly received from you. If the sympathy of friends at the present season is agreeable to you, be assured that it is most heartily accorded by, yours very sincerely,

JOHN ARNOLD.

Peter Street, 19th Dec., 1855.

With these expressions of sentiment from gentlemen of very different denominations, may be coupled the following extract from a letter of an esteemed friend belonging to another body, and who had occasion, on December 17th, to write me on a different topic:—

"I avail myself of the occasion of this note, to tender you an expression of my continued esteem and regard, and truly do I sympathise with you in the trying and painful circumstances in which you have of late been placed; and if matters should yet become so unpleasant as to compel you to separate from your congregation in Toronto, rest assured you carry with you the good wishes of our Church and congregations generally, and the affectionate regard of every minister we have had stationed in this city.

"I exceedingly regret to see that out of the matters of misunderstanding, a charge is alleged against you, intended to affect your moral and religious character, under the ambiguous terms of "want of sincerity and honesty of purpose." A man may easily imagine differences of opinion arising between a Pastor and his official brethren, and extending to members of his Congregation; but after an appeal to the numerical strength of a Church fails to settle the matters in dispute, and that opponents will not be satisfied with discussion and explanation, I confess there is little hope (short of some extraordinary interference) other than secession in the body. It is painful, my dear Sir, to have to look on, and observe men bringing up charges in sober seriousness, expressing a want of sincerity and honesty, and then being obliged to roam over a period of nearly seven years\* to prove the assertion. Few men in Toronto who know you by name—much less those who have had intercourse with you—will believe such a charge as this. I have had the pleasure of your personal acquaintance ever since you came to Canada, and on many occasions, in the Committee-room, on the Platform, and in the halls of the Poor-house, alike advocating the extension of the cause of missions, of temperance, and of freedom, if not furthering everything partaking of a benevolent character and adopted in this city; and I believe it is the universal opinion of those who have associated with you, and have had the honour and the pleasure of your acquaintance, that there is not in any of the Churches a more faithful and laborious Pastor than yourself, and none more ready to engage in every good word and work. Wishing you every spiritual and temporal happiness, and that you may be sustained in this emergency, believe me, dear Sir, yours very respectfully,

R. H. BRETT,

Financial Secretary to the Missions of the Methodist Connexion in Canada.

\* My friend should have said "nearly eleven".