

like St. Paul than any man now living. Yet he combines with his spiritual knight-errantry a shrewd practical wisdom. He has built a steamer built for use on the Upper Congo. It was found almost impossible to convey it by man-loads over the portages of the river; he therefore had some of the machinery converted into a traction engine, with which he is having the steamer hauled overland to the long stretches of the upper waters of the Congo.

The extension of the pastoral term will also receive its share of discussion. It is being more and more felt that the term of three years is too short, especially in the cities, for the full exercise of ministerial usefulness. But the Church as a whole regards its itinerancy as its *decus et decorum*; and when we see the spectacle of a great Church of 12,000 ministers and 12,000 charges, in which no minister able to work is without a church, and no church is without a minister, we can understand why the conservative instincts of the Conference make it reluctant to do aught that may impair the efficiency of the institution.

The fraternal greetings of our own Church to this venerable Church, whose missionaries first introduced Methodism into Canada, were conveyed with great beauty and propriety by the Canadian visiting delegate, the Rev. E. A. Stafford, LL.B.; his address will be read in full throughout the length and breadth of Canada. It is enough to say here that it was worthy of the occasion and of the man, and of the Church he represented. It was elevated in tone, broad in scope, and pervaded with a spirit of kindest catholicity. We were especially pleased with the generous references to the sister Churches of Canada, and to the augury that perhaps for Canada was reserved the honour of leading the way to an exhibition of the practical union of the Churches on the common ground of the great essential truths of our holy religion.

DR. S. J. HUNTER.

In the death of Dr. Hunter, the

Methodist Church has lost one of its ablest and most eloquent and successful ministers; that event came with all the force of a stunning surprise. He was in the full ripeness of his powers, and we might reasonably have expected that long years of usefulness were in store for him. Although for some time not physically strong, there was about him such a fund of mental vitality and vivacity, that it was almost impossible to associate with him the thought of early and sudden death. He had very many attractive qualities, that won the confidence and esteem of all who came within the sphere of his influence. But to those who knew him well he revealed the singular strength and depth of his nature. Those who knew him best loved him most. These he "grappled to his soul with hooks of steel." As Dr. Dewart truthfully remarked, in his beautiful address at the funeral of his old friend, of him it might with singular propriety be said.

His life was gentle; and the elements
So mixed in him, that Nature might
stand up
And say to all the world, This was a
man.

This strength of moral manhood was a striking characteristic. He had the courage of his opinions, and did not hesitate to maintain faithfully his convictions of truth and righteousness. In Conference or other deliberative assembly he did not speak with undue frequency; but when he did, he went to the very heart of the question, and in a few clear-cut and incisive sentences generally carried conviction to the minds of his hearers. But it was in the pulpit and on religious platform that he was at his best. Here he swayed an imperial influence like a monarch on his throne. He united a convincing speech and a persuasive art that led men to decision for God and to consecration of life. Some of his pulpit and platform triumphs are remembered by his brethren with delight years after they took place.

Dr. Hunter came of a family which gave two distinguished ministers besides himself to the Christian minis-