

*A Common Hymn-Book.*—Mr. John Macdonald, of Toronto, moved a resolution bearing upon a matter that has long received his attention, namely :—

*Resolved,*—That the spirit of brotherly love which has been manifested throughout the various meetings of this Ecumenical Council is evidence of the feelings of unity among all branches of the Catholic family, and with a view of strengthening this bond, and drawing it still more closely together, this Conference is of the opinion that the adoption by the Methodist Church throughout the world of a common hymn-book would greatly tend to secure this most desirable end, and that this resolution be referred to the Business Committee, to report upon the best method of bringing it about, in having it submitted to the various Churches, and have reference to the time needed for the disposal of hymn-books specially in those Churches which have but recently adopted revised hymnals."

No positive action was taken on this resolution, inasmuch as the British American and Canadian Churches have quite recently, at great expense, issued new hymn-books.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT FOR 1882.

Our arrangements for 1882 are not yet complete, but we can confidently announce that this MAGAZINE will be more deserving of the patronage of its readers than ever before. The following is a partial enumeration of its leading features :

The serial story for the year will be entitled "LIFE IN A PARSONAGE; OR, LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF THE ITINERANCY"—a story of Canadian life, by the Editor. This story, although complete in itself, is a sequel to "THE KING'S MESSENGER," which has been received with such favour in Canada, and has been republished in England. It will record the further fortunes of some of the leading characters in that story, and will give, it is believed, a faithful portraiture of some of the varied phases of Canadian social life.

The series of biographical sketches by the Editor will be entitled, *MIS- SIONARY HEROES*, and will embrace such representative characters as Felix Neff, John Calvert, Henry Martyn, William Carey, John Hunt, Dr. Morrison, Robert Moffat, John Williams, Emily Judson, Bishop Patteson, Dr. Duff, and other heroic missionaries and martyrs.

A series of sketches of travel, entitled, "*LOITERINGS IN EUROPE*," by the Rev. C. S. Eby, B.A., Missionary of the Methodist Church of Canada in Japan, will embrace such attractive subjects as "Rambles among the Hartz Mountains," "Student Life in Germany," "In Rhineland," "Lights and Memories of Bohemia," "Alpine Pictures," and "Switzerland." These papers are written in Mr. Eby's graphic and racy style, and several of them will be handsomely illustrated.

Among the other illustrated articles will be papers on Fine Art, with engravings from some of the most elegant art volumes ever published in America. Further papers on "*PICTURESQUE CANADA*," "*THE LAND OF NILE*," "*ITALIAN PICTURES*," and other subjects to be hereafter announced, all handsomely illustrated. Dr. Carroll will give a series of sketches of *PIONEER MISSIONARIES*, including James Evans, Robert Rundle, Wm. Ryerson, and Henry Wilkinson.

In consequence of the illness of a senior officer of the U. S. Navy Department at Washington, we have been disappointed in receiving a set of fine engravings, illustrating the voyage and wreck of the Arctic exploring ship *Polaris*, and the wonderful adventures of its crew, as they drifted for 1,600 miles on the ice. We hope, however, to present in the coming volume this fine series. As heretofore, important papers by valued contributors will be presented, including biographical sketches of the late Judge Wilmot, Robert Wilkes, Esq., and Dr. Punshon, which, through causes beyond the Editor's control, have been delayed.

A Canadian lady will give a graphic account of her shipwreck, which was attended with sad loss of