

literature ; but it is employed by vile men for the dissemination of infidel, pernicious and corrupting reading. This Satanic work it is almost impossible to suppress ; and the freer the country the more difficult the task. In England, in the United States, in France, Belgium and Italy, the viper press has agents.

In Canada we do not think it exists, as our smaller population and, we believe, more wholesome tastes prevent its establishment. But some of this vicious and pernicious reading does find its way into our country. The Woman's National Council at Montreal the other day sounded a note of alarm and stated that odious panders to vice, in both town and country, try to infect the youthful minds in our schools with its deadly virus, and the Council urged unceasing vigilance for its detection and expulsion.

The laws of the United States forbid the use of mails for sending obscene and vulgar prints and papers. So have those of Canada, and an indecent infidel paper published in New York prints at its head, "Prohibited in Canada." A picture on its first page shows Science as a queenly woman grappling with a hideous reptile labelled "Religion," and Free Thought as a figure in antique mail with helmet and sword, as a gallant soldier. We presume he is about to slay the reptile, Religion.

This paper makes a specialty of caricature of our Lord and announces a comic Bible, in which the holiest hopes of mankind are treated with scoff and scorn. We are glad that this paper is prohibited, and the people of Canada will sustain any Government of any party in rigidly excluding it from our mails.

METHODIST UNION.

Although Canada is one of the youngest of the nations, it has set an example that some of the oldest would do well to follow. The striking success of Methodist union in this country has greatly impressed intelligent visitors from the Old Land. The extraordinary growth and development in numbers, in influence, in education and publishing institutions, in church architecture, in Sunday-schools and

Epworth Leagues, and above all, in old-fashioned conversions to God, may be justly accepted as the seal and signal of the Divine approval on the Methodist union so happily consummated among us. "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Stimulated by the example of Canadian Methodism, the Methodism of Australasia has been making long strides towards Methodist union as indicated by the following facts which we glean from the *Methodist Times*: "The question of Methodist union has been discussed this year in each of the sixteen Methodist Conferences of Australasia. In New Zealand Methodist union is an accomplished fact. The Free Church Methodists and Bible Christians have held their last Conferences in New Zealand. A joint Conference has already arranged the appointments for the present year ; and Wesleyan Methodist, Free Methodist, and Bible Christian ministers are completely fused throughout the six districts of the colony. In the colony of Queensland the question of union will be submitted to the people for settlement next year, the jubilee year of Queensland Methodism. In South Australia the unhoped-for unanimity in the Wesleyan Methodist Conference is regarded by all as a manifest sign of Divine guidance. In Victoria and Tasmania the minor Methodist bodies displayed the same beautiful spirit as in the other colonies ; and the only opposition, and that of a purely financial and temporary character, was exhibited in our own Conference."

It appears that every Methodist Church in Australasia is in favour of Methodist reunion. Nobody dares to oppose reunion on its merits ; but a few of our ministers and laymen seem to trust God for everything except money. They enlarge upon those petty financial difficulties of which we have heard so much at home ; but the hand of God is sweeping all such cobwebs on one side, and there is no doubt that within the next few years there will be only one Methodist Church in every Australasian colony.

CHARITY.

Then constant faith and holy hope shall die,
One lost in certainty, and one in joy ;
Whilst thou, more happy power, fair charity,
Triumphant sister, greatest of the three,
Thy office and thy nature still the same,

Lasting thy lamp, and unconsumed thy flame,
Shalt still survive—
Shall stand before the host of heaven confessed,
Forever blessing, and forever blest.