

SENSIBLE.

WE learn that at least two ministers made a sensible, although unusual, change in the covenant services, this year. When the call was made on the people to enter into solemn covenant with God, as is usual in all orthodox Methodist congregations, not only all those who desired, for the first time, to do so, or who, having broken the covenant, wished to renew it, were called on to stand up during the reading, but all those who having formerly covenanted with God had stood to that covenant, were specified, and requested, without compromise, to unite with the others in the service.

This was right and sensible, and we commend the act to all others. It so happened that in both congregations there were present some belonging to this latter class referred to, and so they were not placed in an unpleasant situation. That these parties had no wish to draw attention to themselves was evinced by their rising to their feet along with the rest, but we have reason to believe that had this change in the service not been made they could not have so acted.

How few and simple are the changes needed to be made in the Methodist church to accommodate the increasing numbers of those who walk in the Spirit!

Let but a little common sense be used by the ministers and leaders and not only will there be no unseemly contrasts brought out, but those, who live by theyear without breaking their covenant, will be able to remain to help honest aspirants after a similar experience.

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE?

A FEW years ago when Dr. Steele, at the "urgent request" of Rev. Mr. McDonald, wrote "Danger Ahead," one could hardly have imagined the

writer of that attack on us turning his pen against his then bosom friend.

In our private letter to Dr. Steele we demanded of him to secure the publication of our reply to himself in the *Witness*, even, if need be, at the expense of the friendship between him and its editor. But this our demand he characterized as utterly beyond his disposition to grant.

Well, it is somewhat remarkable that this compact between these two in their attack upon us did not long continue. Since then they have again and again measured theological blades against each other, and that in public.

Hence, we infer that if it was fear of the rupture of the good understanding which existed between them that stood in the way of Dr. Steele granting us simple justice, his failure to do as he would be done by has only played into the hands of those fears. The compact scarcely survived the act of injustice with which we charged him.

Now, granted this to be a mere coincidence, still we draw attention to the fact that these coincidences have a wonderful tendency to reproduce themselves in the history of our Association. Historically considered, the attack on us in our own Conference, much to their chagrin, resulted in our work in Toronto. The refusal to devote a column of the *Guardian* to the work of the Association eventuated in the publishing of the *Expositor*.

The history of Wesley Park is full of just such incidents. Not only was the attempt of the majority of that Association to destroy our work there followed by its own utter collapse, but incidents somewhat similar connect themselves with the individuals composing this attack, and that after a striking manner, to say the least of them.