

much less friction and much sooner than the most sanguine could have anticipated. This gratifying fact we regard as a striking evidence of the sincerity of the promoters of the Union, as the direct answer to the prayers of Christ's servants, and as the immediate result of the working of God's gracious providence. The reluctance that we at first manifested in giving our consent to our Church in Canada entering into the Union kindly ascribe to the warm affection and esteem we have always cherished for it, partly because it was our first colonial mission, and chiefly because it was a noble monument of the self-sacrificing devotion of our fathers, and to the fear—the genuine but groundless fear—that the denominational loss might have a disastrous effect on our mission work at home and in other lands.

We trust that your happy Union may be the harbinger of that good time when there will be, as in Canada, one Methodist Church in England, one in Australia, one in Africa, one in China, and one in every other great country, and all thoroughly united in sympathy and effort for the speedier realization of heaven's redemptive purposes.

The admirable constitution which, under the guidance of the Spirit of wisdom, you were able by patient industry and mutual concession to frame, we have studied with peculiar interest, as it includes all the chief features of our own, and in the spirit of unity which has prevailed in your deliberations and discussions, in the evident desire that you have shown to bestow "more abundant honor" on the feeblest members of "the Body," and in the wonderful blessing from on high which has rested on your labors, resulting in the conversion of multitudes and in the addition of thousands to your churches, we most unfeignedly rejoice.

You will be glad to learn that we continue to receive many tokens of the Lord's favor, conspicuously so in the opening of a mission in China, which probably would not have been attempted so soon if Methodist Union in Canada had not taken place.

Honored and dear Fathers and Brethren, we are persuaded that you will be faithful to the holiest traditions of Methodism, and we, therefore, confidently anticipate that in a not remote future, when your great country shall have become the home of a much larger population, our heart's desire and prayer to God for you shall be literally fulfilled, "The Lord God of your fathers make you a thousand times more than ye are, and bless you as He hath promised," and your Church become a fountain of increasing spiritual health and blessing in your own and other lands through all succeeding generations.

Signed on behalf of the Conference.

ALEXANDER TRENGOVE, *President.*