

Annual Address.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST
CHURCH IN CANADA.

DEAR BRETHREN—

Grace, mercy and peace, from God, our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, be multiplied unto you, and may you abound more and more in the knowledge and power of the Gospel.

Another year has elapsed with all its grand opportunities of Christian living and usefulness, also with its blessings and their results. It would doubtless be wise and profitable for us to ask ourselves the question—Have we lived and worked in the Great Master's service through the past year as has been our bounden duty and privilege? and, also, we might institute prayerful searchings of heart that would lead to renewed consecration, self-denial, liberal-heartedness and burning zeal, in the kingdom and patience of Jesus. The beautiful and stirring words of the Apostle are ever applicable—"Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

During the last year some very dear to us have passed away from our family circles, and from Church fellowship. We have no longer their presence, sympathy, prayers and co-operation, in the Church and in its field of labor. Homes have been desolated by death; but let us never forget the record—"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, they rest from their labors and their works follow them." Nothing can equal in value a well-spent life and its results. God will certainly say, "Well done" to those who live and work for Him. He will "give to every man according as his work shall be."

In reviewing the connexional year just closed, we see cause for a measure of thankfulness, and yet for humiliation. The increase of