

Guardian of June 10th, re the Indians of Port Essington, should be read and pondered by every Methodist in the Dominion.

At the closing session, the eastern brethren took leave. Dr. Griffin said he had been deeply interested with what he had seen and heard, and he felt much sympathy for them, but, said he, "you are not having any harder times than we had—Dr. Sutherland and myself—in the old days, and it won't last forever. You are in a new country, laying the foundations. Better days are coming, coming sure."

TORONTO CONFERENCE.

As intimated above, Trinity Church was the place of meeting. Dr. Potts, Secretary of the Educational Society, made his annual report, in which he stated that the income was \$27,112, and the expenditure \$33,023. The number of students in attendance was 253, and the number of the staff is eleven professors and lecturers in Arts, and six in Theology, the latter taking work in both faculties.

Chancellor Burwash spoke very hopefully concerning the University. The attendance had never been so large as at present. Some of the students had carried off the best prizes, both in Victoria and the Provincial University.

One case of Discipline occupied much time, and was finally referred to the Court of Appeal.

The reports of the various committees occasioned much discussion, particularly the Sabbath Observance. The Sunday-school Committee strongly recommended increased attention to be paid to the improvement of teachers. The "Rally" of the Young People was the largest held up to this time. The addresses of the Revs. Dr. Campbell and J. J. Redditt were excellent. An enthusiastic temperance meeting occupied one evening, when Dr. Lucas and Mrs. Rutherford were the speakers, and did their work most efficiently.

Dr. Briggs, Book Steward, presented a very encouraging report. The turn-over of money exceeded \$400,000, there was an increase of profits, and \$7,500 was granted to the Superannuation Fund. Drs. Withrow and Courtice, editors, also addressed the Conference. The Sunday-school publications continue to occupy a foremost place.

The reception and ordination services were very successful. Revs. Dr. Parker

and J. E. Lancelley were the speakers at the former, and Chancellor Burwash the preacher at the latter. The Conference love-feast, led by Rev. W. Burns, was a season of spiritual enjoyment.

Owing to the increasing difficulty of stationing the ministers, the following resolution was adopted:

It was moved by J. J. MacLaren, and seconded by Rev. Dr. German:

"1. That this Conference is of opinion that in at least the older parts of the country the needs of the home work are not likely to require in the near future the reception of so many candidates for the ministry in that department as have been received of late years. That such a reduction would greatly tend to aid in carrying out a readjustment of the work which is imperatively called for in many places in order that better salaries may be paid to our ministers, that Missionary, Superannuation and other connexional funds of the Church may be more adequately sustained, and that the authorities of the Church may be relieved from some of the embarrassments now experienced on account of the large number of ministers and probationers in the older fields of the home work."

"2. That the Special Committee of this Conference to be appointed at the present session be directed to carefully consider this whole question during the year, and report thereon to the Conference of 1897."

The Conference was invited to an "At Home," at the Government House, where a few pleasant hours were spent.

The Presbyterian Assembly met in Toronto and sent a fraternal delegation, consisting of Revs. Dr. Bruce, Herdman and J. K. Macdonald, Esq., who addressed the Conference in the most friendly terms. Rev. Drs. Potts and Dewart, and J. J. MacLaren, Q.C., returned with these honoured brethren, and conveyed Methodist greetings to the Assembly.

The ordination class presented the president with a picture which contained their photos, with that of the president in the centre. This was a day of many pleasantries.

The deaconess work was brought before the Conference in an admirable manner by some of the worthy ladies themselves, accompanied by Rev. G. J. Bishop and Mr. W. Kennedy.

Three brethren were elected chairmen of districts for the first time, Revs. J. C. Speer, T. Bartley, and H. M. Manning.