

METHODISM IN CANADA

social life with the spirit and principles of the religion of Christ. They stood firmly upon the word of God, and were true to it in belief and teaching. In this age it is more and more easy to give up one doctrine after another, and one part after another, and pass from the positive to the negative. Solid work is impossible without solid truth. We can do little or nothing while apologizing for Christ or the Bible. Christ's calmness was the fruit of supreme certainty. The Gospel is not to be put into a Pantheon of the religions of the world. Christianity claims to be absolutely unique. The terms Atonement, Justification, Regeneration, and Adoption are not to be regarded as fossil remains of an extinct theology. Gethsemane, with its tears and blood; Calvary, with its darkness and veiled face, still have their place—a supreme place—and will while God's plan of salvation endures. The greatest awakenings and revivals the Church and the world have known show that when the great doctrines of the Word have been faithfully proclaimed the greatest results have been seen.

Ten years after the missions had been fairly opened the first District Meeting for Upper Canada was held at Zion, Hope, in March, 1844. Members—Upper Canada, 657; Prince Edward Island, 360. The missions were then divided into two districts, with 8 missionaries, 15 churches, 7 Sunday Schools, 40 teachers, 270 scholars, many preaching places. The first church was built at Cobourg, and opened March 5th, 1836; the second at Precious Corners, July 3rd, 1836. In 1844 Mariposa Mission was opened; the next year Belleville, by John Edwards, who visited eight townships. The first service was held in the bar-room of an Irish tavern keeper, whose whole family were converted and the tavern turned into a house of God, with a society of 46 members—all total abstainers.