

## Memorial Service.

THE Wesley anniversary and centennial celebration of Canadian Methodism called forth a grand congregation of loyal Methodists to the Centenary Church, March 2nd, 1891. Truly "our hearts burned within us" as we talked together by the way. Mr. Joseph Lister presided over the meeting, the program of which was carried out with but one exception--the absence of the Rev. E. Lounsbury. The hymns and tunes of early Methodist days were given to the audience "in ye ancient style," a few lines at a time, a practice which was instituted by the Wesleys.

The feature of the evening was the offering of five significant resolutions, beginning with the "Life and Labors of Wesley," moved by Rev. D. G. Sutherland and seconded by W. E. Sanford Esq. As each speaker was limited to fifteen minutes, each felt himself at some loss to know just what to say on so broad a subject as was assigned him. Mr. Sutherland considered Wesley's was no common work. He felt that a divine work was placed upon him as truly as upon the prophets and St. Paul,—his aim was to increase spiritual holiness throughout the land. Wesley's extraordinary intellectual ability was referred to, his advanced thought on the political questions of the day, also on subject of prohibition he was nearly a century ahead of his contemporaries, all this power was given to the church. Countless thousands are in glory, saved through his instrumentality. The most eloquent remarks on this resolution were closed with this covenant,—we hereby covenant to be faithful to the great doctrines and principles which it was his life work to proclaim. Mr. Sanford, as seconder, spoke of the remodelling of the city Road Chapel and that it is the intention for each country to be resseented by a pillar, the collections from all the memorial services to be given to this work. It is intended that the Canadian offering shall be of our own granite if possible.

Dr. Burns, in moving the second resolution, "Methodism in its relation to Education," spoke with customary eloquence of the use of Methodist Institutions since the days of the Wesleys. Methodism planted the first University in Canada in 1841. The United States has many grand Church Universities, richly endowed, which compare favorably with those in foreign lands, and he spoke of the great number of prominent Methodists who are occupying high positions in the educational world and in literature.

The third and fourth resolutions, "The Lay Element in Methodism," moved by Rev. R. J. Elliott, seconded by Mr. W. W. Mann, and "The Vital Forces of Methodism" moved by the Rev. G. A. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. E. M. Furness, were exceedingly interesting, but we have not space to enlarge upon them at this time but pass to the last—"One hundred years of Methodism in Canada," moved by Rev. J. S. Ross, seconded by Mr. Philip Morris. Notwithstanding the lateness of the hour the enthusiasm was intense during the remarks on this resolution. We can take but a very few words. The first Methodist sermon was preached in Quebec by Mr. Tuffy. Mr. Wm. Lossee, from the New York Conference, founded the first class in Upper Canada in 1799, Hamilton was then called "Head of the Lake," and in a book of minutes now in possession of a person in Drummondville, the Head of the Lake sent to the Quarterly Conference, about 1823, \$12.58 for the preachers on this circuit. The struggles of the early preachers were vividly set before us. One man, McCarthy, being arrested under the vagrant act and sentenced to be banished on one of the islands, was taken from his wife and four children who never saw him again.

The grand work of Dr. Ryerson in helping to bring about equal rights to our Ministers with those of the Church of England, the long line of victory after victory up to the proud position which our church holds to-day, until 233,000 people are praising God for Methodism, gave to this closing speech a great enthusiasm. The singing of the hymn 892, Doxology and Benediction, brought to a close one of the most delightful gatherings ever held in connection with the united Methodist Church of Hamilton.

Thou Shepherd of Israel, and mine,  
The joy and desire of my heart;  
For closer communion I pine,  
I long to reside where thou art:  
The pasture I languish to find,  
Where all, who their Shepherd obey  
Ate fed, on thy bosom reclined,  
And screen'd from the heat of the day

Ah! show me that happiest place,  
The place of thy people's abode,  
Where saints in an ecstasy gaze,  
And hang on a crucified God  
Thy love for a sinner declare,  
Thy passion and death on the tree;  
My spirit to Calvary bear,  
To suffer and triumph with thee.

'Tis there, with the lambs of thy flock,  
There only, I covet to rest,  
To lie at the foot of the rock,  
Or rise to be hid in thy breast:  
'Tis there I would always abide,  
And never a moment depart;  
Conceal'd in the cleft of thy side,  
Eternally held in thy heart.

—Charles Wesley.