

unto you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ."

Through the well-directed train of the providence of God, after the toils of another Conference year, in christian kindness and full hearts,

"Again in Jesus' praise we've joined,"

and for the transaction of the business of our beloved Zion on this Conference floor,

"We have in his sight appeared."

The Conference Session, upon the whole, has been a session marked by christian courtesy and forbearance on all questions, whether of a greater or a less magnitude, brought before our Conference, each striving to follow out the injunction of the Great Head of the Church—"Let each esteem others better than himself."

It is, and has been, to us a subject of great thankfulness to God, dear brethren, that some of our aged fathers have been preserved, and are to this day with us in the camp, as the ancient landmarks of Methodism; and though, in our Conferences, we are led, in the appreciation of their services, to think of a day when God shall call them up into the Mount to die; when they, to us, who are younger, shall have delivered their valedictory—their farewell address; when we contemplate this—though led to ask, Who shall fill their place, how shall the church advance then?—we still pray that when they ascend, their mantle may fall upon their successors, and a double portion of their spirit fill their hearts.

The past has been a year of great prosperity and ingathering of souls to God, which has much strengthened our hearts, and given us great encouragement to unitedly and unceasingly persevere in the promotion of that cause which is destined, under God, still to advance, till—

"Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
Doth his successive journeys run."