

errors in our midst, that if there is missionary ground anywhere it is in the Dominion of Canada, and that if there is room anywhere for the operations of an earnest Church, with the boundless love of Christ in its creed, and with the life of that love in the hearts of its members, it is in the sphere which I represent this day. (Applause.)

Methodism in Canada, one in feeling, doctrine, and aim with your own holding reverently by the same traditions, thrilled by the primary inspiration of love to Christ, and by the secondary inspiration of many a pious pioneer legend of its own, has bravely girded itself for this great work of evangelism. In endeavouring to leave the land with the pure truth of the Gospel of Christ, Methodism in Canada has certain initial advantages which are helpful to successful labour. I will just mention four of them. There are two kinds of work to be done in Canada. The settler must be followed to the remotest forest which echoes to the stroke of the axe, or through which arises the smoke of the clearing; and then the requirements of the age demand that the flock, however scattered, shall be housed and tended with all the shepherd's care. In these circumstances it is no small advantage that the men whom God raises up for the ministry in Canada are men who can do all kinds of work, who combine in themselves the pioneer and the pastoral elements of character. They can both fell the trees and build and furnish the house. Another advantage is that the stream of emigration, although it does not come, as in the Western States of the Union, in rapids and cataracts, yet flows steadily; and many a warm-hearted Cornishman and hard-headed Dalesman from the North finds ready to hand, so soon as he lands upon Canadian soil, the same hearty fellowships, the same free, grand ringing out of Gospel tidings, as those to which he has been accustomed to respond at home. (Hear, hear.) I do not know whether you will call it an advantage or no, but, in frankly speaking my own mind, I cannot help calling it a great and blessed advantage that Methodism in Canada walks abroad in the sunshine, that she cowers beneath no ancient shadow. (Hear, hear.) She neither frets under legal restrictions, nor droops beneath a baleful ascendancy. Oh, it has often been to me a glory and a joy that the Methodism which I love, my own native and preferred Jerusalem, has there taken the position which she ought always to take among the Churches—standing forth in her comeliness the peer of all, and in her charity the friend of all—(applause)—too kind to be the enemy, too proud to be the valet—(hear, hear)—too affluent in spirit and resources to be the poor relation of any. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) Moreover, it is always an advantage to a messenger to be assured beforehand of the adaptation to those whom he speaks of the message which he is called upon to deliver. Now I believe that Methodism is adapted, above all other spiritual agencies, to the wants of those whom it endeavours to rescue and to save. (Hear, hear.) You will not do me the injustice of supposing for a moment that I am insensible to the good work which other Churches are worthily performing. (Hear.) The field is quite ample enough for all varieties of tillage. Our Presbyterian friends have many earnest ministers, a compact Church order, well-ordered Church schemes, and Canada owes much to them for their inculcation of high principles and for their battles for religious freedom; but their spread