

It is not, however, an event that will result in any new laws, or, in any marked degree, in new methods in the administration of old ones. The religious life and activity of the various congregations will go on as before. The responsibilities of the membership of the church to God, and to each other, will not be lessened in any degree. We hope, however, that by the annual meeting in council of those who are most intimately acquainted with the work on the various circuits, we will both gather new zeal in the prosecution of our toil and aid each other in reaching the wisest means of guarding the interests of our church over our widely extended territory.

Enough is said in other influential publications upon the vastness, the exhaustless resources, and the glorious future of this North Western world, so that we need not dwell upon such topics; but we must not forget that a great door of opportunity standing open means the obligation to perform correspondingly great duties. The population at present settled in these provinces will have very great influence in determining what its future shall be. In moral and religious character, in intelligence and enterprise, the earliest inhabitants will be the guides, to a large extent, of those who come later. It is, therefore, of the highest importance that we and you give all diligence to establish and maintain the ordinances of the christian church, and all the means of grace peculiar to our own denomination, in every settlement where the nucleus of a future church organization may be formed. We do not desire to inculcate a love of denominationalism which shall exceed our love to christianity; for we cherish, and pray that all our people may also cherish the most kindly feeling toward all christian people of every name, and rejoice likewise in the success of all christian effort, but at the same time we are persuaded that methodism is calculated to meet certain demands of society which would otherwise be entirely neglected. We are well assured that the world still needs our living testimony to a conscious interest in the saving power of our Lord Jesus Christ. Spiritual religion is the only bar that can successfully resist all the various forms in which unbelief may appear. We do not believe that infidelity is any more determined, more violent, or more powerful than it has been in days that are gone, but in forms

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