

PLEASANT HOURS

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. II.

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No. 3.

CHILDREN.

"GOD bless the little children,
We meet them everywhere;
We hear their voices round the
hearth;
Their footsteps on the stair;
Their kindly hearts are swelling
o'er
With mirthfulness and glee;
God bless the little children,
Wherever they may be."
Anonymous.

Oh, the ripple of childish laughter,
And the touch of the velvety
hand!
The charm of the little features,
And the wee feet to patter the
sand.

These chasten the beautiful sun-
shine
That floods all the house with
its light!
And the vanished shadows before
Are recalled but as dreams of
the night.

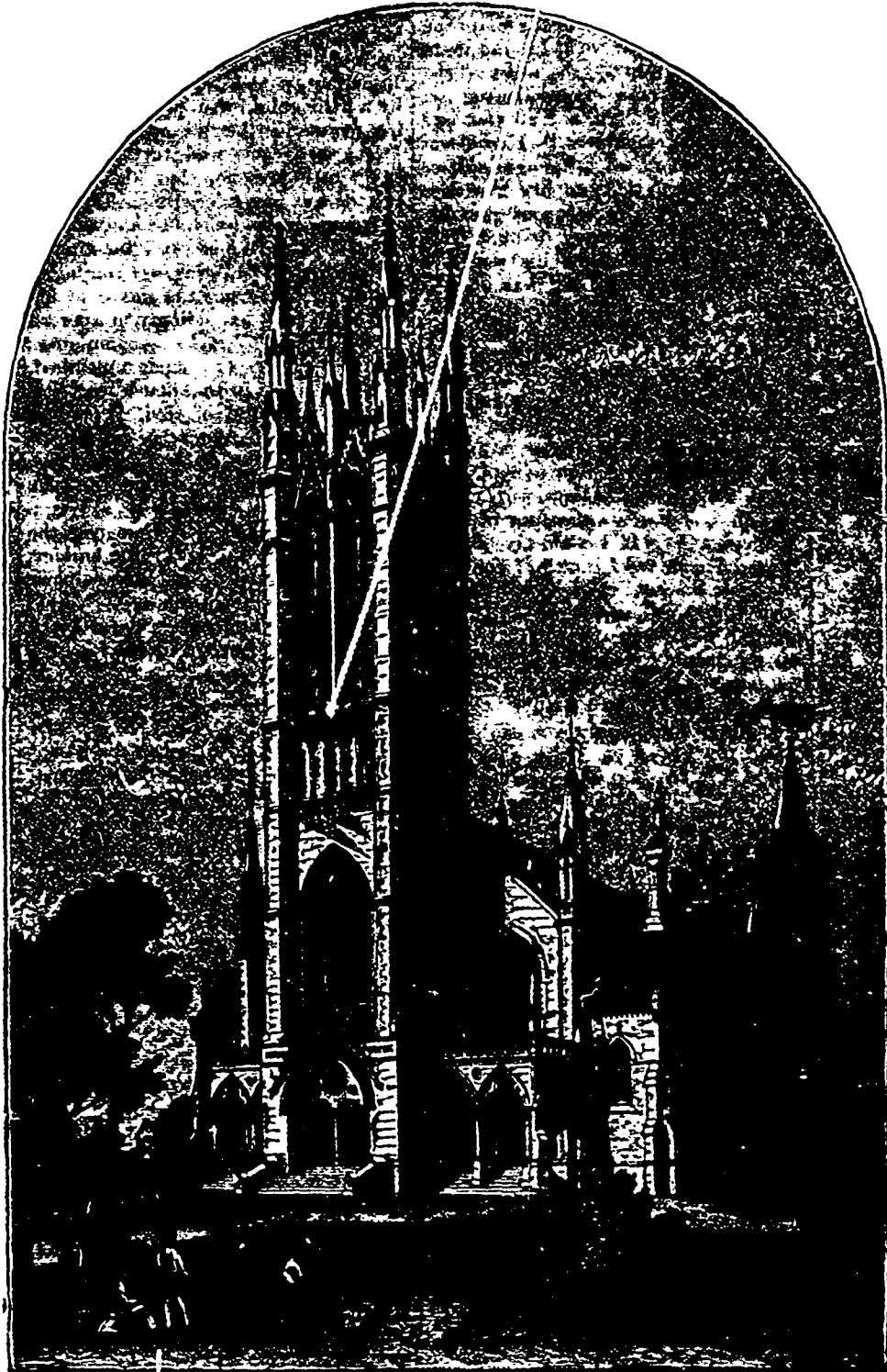
METROPOLITAN METHODIST CHURCH, TORONTO.

BY THE RECTOR.

MOST of our young
readers have
heard of this
famous church,
and many of them
have seen it. We
have pleasure in
giving, for the
benefit of both classes an en-
graving of it, and competent
judges, who have travelled
around the Globe, say that it
is the handsomest Methodist
church in the world. None of
the great cathedrals or churches
which we have seen abroad are
so grandly situated as it is, in
a noble square of two acres, in
which it is the only building.
Broad greenswards, paths, &c.,
flowers, and shrubbery, present
a scene of beauty as we ap-
proach.

We think the church looks
most beautiful of all on a bright
moonlight Sunday night, when
the light shines through the
stained glass windows, and the
rolling of the organ and sing-
ing of the vast congregation
are heard on the street, and
the walls and towers seem in the bright
moonlight transfigured to marble or
alabaster.

This beautiful church may be con-
sidered to a great extent a monument



METROPOLITAN METHODIST CHURCH, TORONTO.

to the energy and zeal and good taste
of the late Rev. Dr. Punahon. It was
he, we believe, who suggested its erec-
tion, and actively promoted its progress,
and gave his counsel as to its design.

One of its windows is a memorial to
his beloved wife, who died in Canada,
and another is to be made a memorial
of himself. It is a wonderful sight to
see it crowded full of people, as it often

is, and when they rise to sing
some of our grand old hymns
the effect is sublime. It is a
favourite place of meeting for
the Bible and Tract Societies,
and the like; and many famous
preachers—Bishop Peck, Dr.
Peck, Dr. Vincent, Dr. Pun-
ahon, Dr. Douglas, Dr. Nelles,
Rev. J. H. Robinson, and
others have preached within
its walls. The Rev. George
Cochran, Dr. Potts, and Rev.
Wm. Briggs, have been its
pastors. But its most solemn
associations are those of the
memorial services held here
on the death of Dr. Green,
Dr. Punahon, Dr. Taylor, and
others who have passed away.
Here the first General Confer-
ence was held, and here the
late Anniversary and Break-
fast Meeting of the Missionary
Society took place. It will hold
when crowded nearly 3,000
persons. Its hundred and fifty
lights, or more, can all be lit
in a moment by a spark of
electricity. It cost, with the
ground, about \$150,000. Yet
the Gospel in its simplicity
and purity is preached here as
plainly as in the humblest
country school-house. In the
rear of the church is a beautiful
school room, and here is a very
successful Sunday school, un-
der the superintendence of
Alderman Bonstead, one of
the most energetic of Sunday-
school workers. The porches
shown at the corners were
part of the architect's original
design, but they have been
omitted in the construction.

Mr. Moody tells the following
story: "In one of our Western
States, a good many years ago,
a little girl heard who could do
something for her Saviour; and
her teacher told her she could
bring her father to the Sunday-
school. At first, she could not
get him to come; but at length
she brought him to the door of
the little log house, where the
Sunday-school was kept. He
had never been at a Sunday-
school a day in his life. He
was a great drunkard and blas-
phemer. But that little girl
succeeded in getting her father to that
school; and what is the result to-day?
He has succeeded in planting eleven
hundred and eighty Sunday-schools
throughout the Western States."