

PASTORAL ADDRESS

OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH OF
CANADA, TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
UNDER ITS CARE.

Dearly Beloved Brethren :—Of the many duties connected with our ministerial work, we deem this of addressing you in our capacity as the United Pastorate of the Methodist Church in this Island, to be one of special importance and peculiar pleasure.

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

Great is our gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the many tokens of His favour which He has been pleased to show us during the past ecclesiastical year. Some of our circuits have been favoured with gracious outpourings of the Holy Spirit; others have not been so abundantly blessed, nevertheless all have enjoyed evident manifestations of the Divine presence and power. As a Conference, we have ample proof that God is in the midst of His people. He is verily in the assembly of His saints. We are sorry to state that for the want of sufficient funds we cannot occupy some of the places that are open to us for immediate operation.

The calls from several parts for ministerial help and pastoral oversight are very pressing. We sincerely hope that means will soon be placed within our reach to enable us to fill those places now vacant. Amid our solicitude for the interest of the Church, in the expansion and consolidation of the cause of God among us, we rejoice to mark evidences of progressive piety in the lives of many of our members of society who are not ashamed to acknowledge Christ before men, and by exemplary conduct to advocate His religion in the world. The sittings and deliberations of Conference have been seasons of grace. The brethren have not failed to exhibit in their intercourse with each other the Spirit of their Master. Great unanimity and brotherly love have characterized our actions. It has been truly seen, "How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Every member of our Conference has manifested an earnest desire for the prosperity of Zion, and each has resolved anew