1885

hed at the last be if we consider being an increase r this token of God, and, giving Him alone. The all of encourage.

ny parts of the h-school and the efore exhort you al welfare of the l is not possible, e devoted to a t not be allowed the best prevent-By some means, ity cherished by Let them see

g as converting ue spiritual life ssary, from any to be dreaded. e means of grace, es intimacy with eeping the heart rivations will be ces the Church, ividual riembers nited in a strong to Christ.

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umstances have nen and women d do to help has

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

Who of us can doubt that it has done much? A been done. rebellion, so comprehensive in its plan as to embrace the whole country, has been completely crushed. The unspeakable horrors of a protracted Indian war, with which, at one time, we were threatened, now seem certainly to be averted; and these stupendous results have been realized by a loss of soldiers' lives small without precedent: while, at the same time, for patient endurance of a long and fatiguing march, or for rapid progress under a pressure of strong necessity, for steadiness of movement in the face of the foe, and for deeds of bravery and daring, our citizen soldiers have won a name which Canada will ever hold in the highest esteem. We thank God for the wisdom that commanded, for the endurance, and immunity from sickness that was given to the men, and for the glorious results, which we receive as a distinguished mark of the favour of Divine Providence. We shall not be less loyal to the person of our Sovereign, and to all that is meant by Britain's throne, as a result of these recent experiences.

> "God save our gracious Queen, Long live our noble Queen, God save the Queen."

We call your attention to some new phases of the Temperance question. As to the wisdom of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks as a beverage, our Church has had but one voice for many years. It has seemed equally clear that national prohibition is the only efficient remedy for all the evils that are let loose upon society by the liquor traffic. After years of moral suasion, some seven years ago the Dominion Parliament gave to the country a local option law, called the "Canada Temperance Act," better known as the Scott Act. It was not regarded by temperance people as approaching perfection in prohibitory legislation, but as a step in the right direction. It has been submitted in 75 counties and cities, and has been carried by overwhelming majorities in 65 out of the 75 contests. The popular majority of all the votes polled is, at the present time, about 40,000. The law requires that when once the Act is enforced in any county, it shall have a fair trial for three years before it can be repealed. It had been adopted in the county of Halton, Ontario, and the enemies of it had secured the privilege of submitting a by-law for its repeal when it had been in operation only about two years. After using every effort, they were ignominiously defeated. They then boasted that they would leave the electors, and use their money at Ottawa. During the present session of Parliament, the Senate of Canada has amended the Act so as to allow the sale of wine and beer where it is in force. It is feared that this amendment will be accepted by the House of Commons.