

TOWNSHIP DISTRICT  
PASTORAL ADDRESS.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Through the mercy and well directed providence of our Heavenly Father we are permitted once more to meet in our confederal capacity and send you our annual epistolary greeting. The watchful care of the great Head of the Church has been graciously exercised over us, and death has not been permitted to invade our effective ranks, for which we devoutly thank God; but two of our superannuated brethren have been called to their reward. Father C. Swayze and Bro. J. Hayward are no more with us, but their end was peace. (See obituaries.) One of our brethren, P. Smith, Jr., who has labored efficiently on the London Station during the two past years, a few days previous to the meeting of Conference was smitten down by disease, and is now lying in a precarious state. May the Lord restore him to health and family and usefulness.

The deliberations of our Conference have been pleasant and harmonious throughout, and have terminated for the present.

And now, brethren, before taking our departure for our respective fields of labor for another year, there are a few things of deep interest to us as a Church to which we desire to call your attention. And first, in regard to those sent to labor with you in word and doctrine. They are sent to you in the name of the Redeemer—receive them as his servants, co-operate with them and sustain them while they go forward in their work of faith and labor of love. When they arrive among you meet them with friendly greetings, and make them feel that they are among the members of their Father's family. Supply their temporal wants, that their hearts may be cheered, and that they may, untrammelled, labor for the extension of the interests of their Master's cause: "Freely ye have received, freely give." This will require sacrifices on your part, but let them be cheerfully made as unto the Lord, "And ye shall receive the reward of inheritance, for ye serve the Lord Christ." And whatever you do, be punctual in the performance of your religious duties, such as secret and family prayer, the public preaching of the word, prayer and class meetings. The discharge of those duties is necessary if you would make proficiency in the way which leadeth to endless life and felicity. Continually "set your affections on things which are above," remembering that all earthly things will perish in the using of them. Do not for a moment entertain the opinion which is far too prevalent, that in order to benefit the world you must walk with them in their ways of mirth and folly, and follow their fashions. Rather stand on the lofty eminence of your profession, and reach out to them the hand of friendship and love, inviting them to forsake their ways and come up and walk with you that you may do them good. Deny yourselves, take