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## W. H. WITHROW, D.D., EDITOR,

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1896.

## Torch and Banner.

Ws find that we were a little too previous in our note on the new cover of the BANNER, last month. At the time of writing we had seen only the design, which was very handsome, but the execution fell short of our expectation. We have had to supersede that design by another, which we think our friends will consider a great improvement. It embodies the idea of a banner, but combines with it that of a torch, the symbol of illumination. This reminds us of Kingsley's stirring lines:

> Still the race of hero-spirits Pass the torch from hand to hand."

The object of our Sunday-school magazine is to illumine the sacred text, to communicate all the light we can to its readers, that they may transmit it to their scholars. It is the sacred privilege of doing good, that, like mercy, "it We lose no light by communicating light to others. The torch burns not less brightly though it kindle a hundred other torches.

A great publishing house has as its seal a hand passing a torch to another hand, with the notto, "Let those having the light give it to others." We hope that this will be the life motto of each one of us. If the lamp of Hope and Faith and Love has been kindled in our heart, let us not seek to hide the light, but communicate its glad illumination to all around. "No man when he hath lighted a candle putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick (or lamp-stand), that they which come in may see the light.

> " Shall we, whose souls are lighted With wirdom from on high, Shall we to men benighted The Lamp of Life deny?"

## Methodist Magazine and Review-Amalgamation.

By an arrangement with the Editing and Publishing Committee of the Canadian Methodist Review, that high-class bi-monthly has been amalgamated with the Methodist Magazine. The best elements of both periodicals will be united in the Methodist Magazine and Review.

In order to embrace the greater variety and wider scope of topics which this union requires, the Magazine, which has just completed its twenty-first year and forty-second volume, will be enlarged one-fifth in size, and, by closer printing, one-fourth in contents. It will still retain its popular features of superior engravings, articles of picturesque and narrative interest, biblical illustration, the "Romance of Missions," popular science, character studies, serial and short stories, and will add a Review department for the expression of the higher thought of our Church, as well as for the expression of its broadest Christian culture.

Notwithstanding this increase in size and improvement in character, the price of the Methodist Magazine and Review, where taken with either Guardian or Wesleyan, will be a reduction to \$1.75 from \$2, the price of the Methodist Magazine. Where taken singly it will continue at the same price, \$2.

The Editors and Publisher of both the periodicals now uniting make an urgent appeal for the hearty support and co-operation of the entire Church, that the Methodist Magazine and Review may be in every way a worthy exponent of the best and broadest Christian culture of Canadian Methodism. An enlarged staff of able contributors has been secured. In addition to its lighter features, a monthly review of the world's progress and of the current thought in religion, morals, science and social economics will be furnished. A specialty will be the Review of New Books. The most important works in every department of literature will receive careful examination and exposition. This will not only be a valuable guide to the book-buyer, but will keep its readers informed of the great questions which are occupying the public mind.