

turn the hearts of the children of men as the rivers of water are turned. They need to arrest the attention, to arouse the conscience, to persuade the will of the people to do their duty on the 4th day of December. Throughout Ontario such a campaign must be waged as was never waged before. It is this time no academic question that is before us. We are not beating the air, it is a concrete result that we may gain if we are faithful, or lose if we are craven. The Conferences have rung their appeal, our leaders have given no uncertain sound, it is now the glorious chance of the people by the unbought freemen's vote to smite such a blow at the greatest enemy of righteousness as shall save our boys from the pitfalls in their pathway, as shall bring gladness to many a drunkard's home, as shall bring joy in heaven akin to that when one sinner repenteth. God give us grace to rise to the height of our privilege and duty.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

It is, we think, providential, that the General Conference meets in the mid-continent city of Winnipeg. It will thus become seized of the situation as it no other wise could. Its members shall see for themselves, not merely the fields whitening unto the harvest that shall, in large part, feed the world, but the white fields waving unto the spiritual harvest—a grand opportunity for gathering souls into the kingdom, the tremendous importance of making wise and wide provision for the glorious future of that land. God has dowered us with the richest heritage which ever came to any race or people. He calls us to go up and possess the good land and large. As never before in the history of our country is being fulfilled the vision of the seer :

"I hear the tread of pioneers
Of nations yet to be,
The first low wash of waves where yet
Shall roll the human sea."

From Britain, from the Provinces of the Dominion, and especially from the northern tier of States of the neighbouring Union, settlers are pouring in by the thousand. In Minnesota it is said that the Methodists outnumber all the other Churches taken together. A large proportion of these new settlers are Methodists. Our own sons and daughters, the best assets of our homes, and the adventurous spirits

from the Mother Country, are going in that land. Twenty thousand harvesters are going to gather in the gifts of God's providence, the golden grain of the prairies, richer than any gold mines of the Yukon or Caribou. We must not be recreant to our duty to meet their spiritual needs. The opportunities thus offered are a summons of tremendous import. It needs the response of faith, the vision of the statesman and the seer, the earnest co-operation with the providence of God. Let much prayer be offered by His Church and people, that wisdom and courage may be given in this crisis of our Church's history.

THE POPE AND THE METHODISTS.

Pope Leo XIII. has a serious grievance against the Methodists. Their schools and missions in the city of Rome have attracted much attention by their growth and commanding influence. They are denounced by the Vatican organ as "an insult to the Holy Father." It declares that their "heresies are sustained by foreign gold, and protected by the Italian Government." Fortunately for the freedom of religion and education, the Pope of Rome no longer wields the temporal power, as he once did, or it would go hard with the Methodist schools and missions. He is like the toothless tyrant described in Bunyan's allegory, who could only mumble at the pilgrims, but could not come by them.

The Methodist and Presbyterian churches are two of the finest buildings on the Via Nazionale. The Methodist school is almost under the shadow of the royal palace. It is attended by the daughters of some of the leading families of the city and the kingdom, and is safe beneath the protection of the law. From his palace of the Vatican, which he affects to call his prison, the Pope can look upon the buildings of the British Foreign Bible Society. How different from the time, comparatively recent, when Protestants had to go without the gates to worship God in an old building behind the hay market. The first man who entered the breach made by the cannon of Garibaldi in the walls of Rome was a Vaudois Bible colporteur—a prophecy that the Word of God should be for ever unfettered and free in the Eternal City, where it so long was bound. We may still visit the room in which the great