

Appendix C.**ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL
CONFERENCE**

TO THE

Members of the Methodist Church of Canada.

VERY DEAR BRETHREN,—

I have been requested by the recent General Conference "to prepare an Address to the members of our Church throughout the Dominion and elsewhere, on the state of our work, with a view to promote its efficiency."

This request is my reason and apology for the liberty I now take of addressing you, compressing what my heart prompts and duty requires me to say, in as few words as possible.

1. The first feeling that should warm and swell our bosoms, is that of gratitude to Almighty God, not only for the material prosperity with which He has blessed our country, but for the displays of His grace to us as a Church, in the large increase of members, places of worship, seminaries of learning, means to sustain and extend our Missionary operations at home and abroad, and in consolidating three branches of the Methodist family into one vast connexion, extending from Newfoundland to British Columbia, embracing an inter-oceanic territory larger than the United States of America, including upwards of one thousand Ministers, more than one hundred thousand communicants, and nearly half a million of adherents and hearers.

2. It is also a special ground for thankfulness to the Supreme Fountain of all wisdom and goodness, that in the first representative Conference held in our Church, ministers and laymen have been, elected by their wide spread constituencies, assembled in equal numbers, and with one mind and heart have avowed articles of faith, and a system of doctrines, and adopted a polity of Church government by which the people called Methodists have been distinguished from the days of John Wesley—doctrines preached by Apostles and witnessed by martyrs—and a polity of operations which, in a century, has unfurled the banner of the cross and preached its unsearchable riches over continents and islands to a greater extent than any other Protestant