

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 1875-6.

The first Executive Committee Meeting shall be held in Bowmanville, on the 4th Wednesday in August; the second meeting at any place the Committee may appoint, on the 4th Wednesday in November; and the third meeting, at any place the Committee may appoint, on the 4th Wednesday in February, 1876.

Address to the Societies.

DEARLY BELOVED,

In harmony with a time honored usage of our Church, we address a word of counsel and encouragement to you from the Conference.

From the statistical returns, and the ample reports of the several District Meetings, we are in a position to scan the tents of our Israel, as from the mounts of Moab, scattered in the valley below. By no other means could we get so general a view of things, unless we had more than human powers of discernment. Perhaps it is not assuming too much to conclude that, we can see and judge of the state of the Church as you can hardly do in your individual capacity.

We see much in the history of the past year, both to encourage and stimulate to further and increased efforts to promote a pure Christianity through the medium of our own Denomination. An organization, based upon principles of truth, is a great power for good, if well worked: Man can do but little, single-handed; two are better

than one, and a threefold cord is not easily broken. The strength or weakness of an organization depends upon the principles of its constitution, and the character of its members. As a church, we believe our principles are unquestionably sound and scriptural. Our Church polity is unique and liberal; and our approved usages, though somewhat singular, agree with Bible teaching and example. If, as a people, we lack any of the power of the past, we fear it has grown out of a departure from our principles, rather than a defect in them.

It is a matter of encouragement, that of late we have had great success in opening missions, in erecting large and commodious churches, in an increase of ministerial stipend, and other financial improvements. Beyond, above, and infinitely better than all this, souls have been saved. While we regret that some of our stations have been barren, others have yielded a plentiful harvest. (We cannot report so great an increase as we had hoped to do.)

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