

determination will be necessary to secure the attendance of the lay members of your Society and congregation already alluded to, then the recollection, that it has pleased Almighty God, in his Providence, to give us to see the first Centenary of our beloved Methodism, and as we are willing to admit that to this system we owe the varied exalted spiritual privileges which we have so long enjoyed, and which we hope to transmit in increasing advantages to our rising families,—but no temporary sacrifice will cause even momentary hesitation in their repairing at once to this Festival of Celebration about to be held in Halifax.

It remains only to add, that it is sincerely hoped, that every measure adopted in reference to what may be considered the pecuniary Celebration of Wesleyan Methodism, will be begun, continued, and ended in a spirit of dependence upon God, and of believing prayer for his blessing. We cannot but regard the surprising effort of Christian liberality which we have already witnessed, as a prelude both to further manifestations of the same spirit of benevolence, and to a general outpouring of Divine influence. We leave the practical working of the system, the outlines of which we have suggested, to the friends of Wesleyan Methodism satisfied that no needful exertion will be spared, and that the whole effort will result in a worthy expression of gratitude to God, and of sympathy with his cause and people.

R. ALDER, } One of the
 } General Secretaries.
R. KNIGHT, } Chairman of the
 } District.

An immediate answer is requested to this Circular, in order that accommodations may be provided for yourself and friends, on your arrival in Halifax.

It is likewise expected that you will arrive in Halifax the preceding day.

DEAR BROTHER,—

In the Providence of God, we are called to see the Centenary year of Methodism, and after the example of our Brethren at Home, we are about to celebrate this occasion at Halifax, on Thursday, the 8th of August next, by appropriate services, and a pecuniary thank-offering to God for the many privileges, which, through the instrumentality of Methodism we have long enjoyed, and which we trust our families will long participate. We therefore, on this occasion, most cordially invite you to meet us at Halifax, on the aforementioned day, and we sincerely trust, that at so important a time, and on an occasion which cannot again occur in our day, no personal inconvenience or sacrifice will prevent your hastening to assist us in the celebration of this interesting event.

We are, Dear Brother,

Yours, affectionately,
ROBERT ALDER,
RICHARD KNIGHT.

Halifax, July 24th, 1839.

We shall conclude this article by inserting an extract from the General Address furnished by the Society at Home, and intended for circulation throughout the world.

ADDRESS

OF THE CENTENARY SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE SUBJECT OF THE CENTENARY FUND.

NEARLY one hundred years have elapsed since the first formation of the Wesleyan-Methodist Society. During this period it has experienced many special interferences of God in its behalf, in times of internal commotion, and of peril to its interests, and even existence. On many accounts it must appear most fitting that the whole Connexion should express, and

permanently record, its sense of the value of those blessings which have been realized by Methodism,—national, domestic, and personal blessings,—laying the whole of our Societies under strong obligations to a system which has been the means, under God, of infusing and preserving the power of godliness amongst large masses of society.

In order to a due celebration of the Centenary of Wesleyan Methodism, it is, in the first place, proposed that a day shall be set apart in October, 1839, for religious services, and especially to be observed as a DAY OF DEVOUT THANKSGIVING, and of fervent PRAYER for the more copious effusion of the Holy Spirit upon our Societies and congregations throughout the world. These services will be appointed by the Conference; and we doubt not that a day so joyfully anticipated, and so religiously observed, will be especially honoured of God.

In the second place, it is proposed to make a GENERAL PECUNIARY CONTRIBUTION throughout the Connexion; as a THANK OFFERING to Almighty God, for the benefits derived from our religious system. It is presumed that a large sum will thus be raised, as every Methodist will be anxious to give a practical expression of his gratitude; and especially when it is considered that those donations are to be expended upon such great *connexional* objects as will be promotive of the work of God, and at the same time be *monumental*, and impress the world, in centuries to come, with proof of our high estimation of the character and labours of our ever-to-be revered Founder, and his noble co-adjutors.

The Committee hope that every great interest of the Connexion at home and abroad is embraced by the proposed measures; that the whole project of a pecuniary contribution as a thank-offering will commend itself to the judgments and to the hearts of Wesleyan Methodists throughout the world; and that the carrying out of the designs which the Committee have proposed will constitute an effort worthy of a great, and united, and liberal people, who entertain just views of their obligations to the ministry and agencies of our system. Already a spirit of liberality has been poured out upon individuals in all parts of the Connexion. While His people have been practically acknowledging the claims of Christ by contributions which, in very many instances, involve real sacrifice on the part of the givers, the Lord has eminently declared His good pleasure in pouring out more abundant spiritual blessings upon them; and the Committee doubt not that richer grace will be bestowed upon the societies, when all shall have imitated so noble examples. "Prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

The Committee now commend this noble work to the pious liberality of the Connexion. Let every member of Society share in the celebration by a pecuniary contribution, however small the amount; and the Committee beg to assure the poorest, that a penny from such, if proportionate to their means, will be as thankfully accepted as the largest sum that has been promised by the affluent. Let every one duly consider the benefits he has derived from Methodism, direct and indirect, and then ask himself "How much owest thou unto my Lord?" Has religion saved us from open sin, and from expensive worldly follies? Has it not taught us industry, and moderation, and economy, and put us into the way of competency and comfort, if not of being rich? Are not our families benefited by the ministry and influence of Methodism? And do not our children enter into life with obvious and direct advantages from our own connexion with the church?

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