

soon to have fifty native students preparing for the work of the ministry in the Transvaal, Africa.

The Fernley Lecture was delivered by the Rev. Richard Green, Professor at Didsbury, on "The Mission of Methodism."

In 1835, two Wesleyan missionaries landed in Fiji, literally taking their lives in their hands, in the midst of those blood-thirsty hordes, against the protests of all who knew anything about these islands. To-day, with the exception of one tribe of wild highlanders, who hold out in their own mountain fastnesses, the eighty inhabited isles have all abjured cannibalism and other frightful customs, and have embraced Christianity in such good earnest as may well put to shame many more civilized nations. Now you may pass from isle to isle, certain everywhere to find the same cordial reception by kindly men and women. There are nine hundred Wesleyan churches in Fiji, at every one of which the frequent services are crowded by devout congregations, the schools are well attended, and the first sound which greets the ear at dawn and the last at night is that of hymn-singing and most fervent worship rising from each dwelling at the hour of family prayer.

Mr. Baker, the ex-Wesleyan missionary, who was premier of Tonga Friendly Islands, had to leave that island under threats of being killed by the natives.

On the last day of the Mixed Conference Rev. J. E. Moulton, from Tonga, was introduced. He has been in charge of the Educational Institution in the Friendly Islands for many years, and has been a great sufferer during the persecution which unhappily prevailed under George Tabu. Mr. Moulton had not visited his native land in twenty years.

A House of Rest for the benefit of the ministers was presented to the Conference, by a gentleman at Rock Ferry.

The Wesleyan Trust Assurance Company, in which a great deal of the Church property is insured, presented £500 to the Worn-out Ministers' Fund and also £100 to the Irish

Worn-out Ministers' Fund. The *Methodist Recorder* Company also presented £200 to the first-named fund. A handsome donation was also given from the *Methodist Times* Company.

As March 2, 1891, will be the centenary of John Wesley's death, some wish the Sabbath previous to be observed in all the Methodist places of worship by suitable sermons and collections for the Worn-out Ministers' Fund.

The last Sunday in November is Temperance Sunday with the Wesleyans in England. The Conference recommends that all the ministers and preachers will on that day, both in the pulpits and the Sunday-schools, refer to the appalling extent and dire results of intemperance in Great Britain.

It was agreed that at next Conference reporters for the daily press shall be admitted to report the proceedings.

BIBLE CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE.

The seventy-second Annual Conference assembled at Penzance, the Rev. W. Higman was elected President. He has been forty years in the ministry. Rev. F. W. Bourne, who visited Canada a few years ago, was elected Secretary. He is a well-known minister and is the author of that useful book, the "Life of Billy Bray."

Respectful mention was made of Rev. Paul Robins, who died in Bowmanville a few months ago. He was well known to thousands in England and to many in the Conference. Ten candidates were received on trial for the ministry.

Two young men, both ministers' sons, F. Dymond and S. Pollard, are missionaries in Western China. Two other young men have been sent to their assistance during the past year. Three others have been sent to New Zealand and one to Queensland, so that it will be seen that the denomination is alive to the importance of Christian missions.

The increase in the membership of the Church is 183. Four ministers and four laymen were appointed to attend the Ecumenical Conference.