

Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

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WESLEYAN METHODIST.

The onehundred and forty-seventh annual Conference of the parent body was held at Bristol—a memorable city in the annals of Methodism. It was here that the penny-a-week system originated which contributed largely to the institution of the class-meeting. The last Conference at which John Wesley presided was held here, a few months before his death.

The Conference of 1890 will for many reasons be regarded as memorable. The Rev. Dr Moulton was elected President. He is said to be the most learned man in Methodism, and was a member of the Bible Revision Committee. At present he is Principal of Leys School at Cambridge, a most valuable educational institution. His father and grandfather were Wesleyan ministers, and some of his sons were ordained at this Conference, so that for four generations the Moulton family has been represented in the Wesleyan ministry. Rev. D. J. Waller was re-elected Secretary. Mr. Waller had just returned from America, where he had attended the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Bishop Warren, Revs. Dr. Little, from the Methodist Episcopal Church; Edward King, Australia; Dr. Lelievre, France; and J. D. Lamont from Ireland, delivered stirring addresses respecting Methodism in their respective countries. Bishop Petty, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (Zion), was also present. The net increase in the membership is 2,633, which was thought to be very small in comparison with the agencies at work.

Forty-two probationers were received into full connexion with the Conference and ordained.

A large number of ministers had

died during the year. The roll of the dead contained the names of Geo. Kilner, D.D., Geo. Osborne Bate, Thos. Akroyd, Geo. Dickenson and John Thomas, all of whom had been ministers of prominence.

Of the number of candidates recommended for the ministry, seventy were accepted. Some thought this number was too large, as there were between forty and fifty on the President's list of reserve.

Various appointments were made a year in advance. Rev. George Fletcher was appointed Governor and Tutor in Pastoral Theology and Church Organization, to the Richmond Branch; Rev. S. Whitehead, Missionary, Rev. Geo. A. Bennetts, B.A., Temperance Secretary; forty-one ministers were appointed to the Ecumenical Conference of 1891. Rev. Wallace M. Fullen was appointed delegate to the General Conference of the Methodist Church.

Great anxiety was felt respecting the result of the missionary controversy which had been going on for more than a year. A searching investigation had been made respecting the charges of extravagance that had been preferred. The Conference reviewed the entire proceedings, and it is hoped that peace will now be restored. Dr. Lunn has severed his connection with the West London Mission, of which Rev. H. P. Hughes will retain the superintendency.

The report of the Book Steward awakened great interest. The amount of business done amounted to \$315,000, being an increase of \$5,000 upon the sales of the previous year. The grants made were to the Annuitant and Auxiliary Funds (superannuation) \$18,000; Home Mission Fund, \$25,000; Ireland, \$1,500. The Allan Library cost \$30,000.

Rev. Owen Watkins, the well-known African missionary, hopes