

## Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

### WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.

The income of the Methodist Missionary Society is in advance for the year by about fifteen thousand dollars. This is encouraging, as showing that the tide is flowing, not ebbing.

The forward movement in England is spreading widely. The latest advance is the projected Central Hall for the South London Wesleyan Mission. This is to be situated near the Tower Bridge. The building and grounds will cost \$125,000, of this \$100,000 has been already raised.

The Mission Home is intended to be open every day and every evening for social and religious purposes. It will aim to be a counter attraction to the saloon and the theatre, furnishing reading-rooms, recreations, entertainments, and evangelistic meetings, for the people in the vicinity.

Another great advance has been made in Edinburgh. A large block of property has been secured on one of the best sites in the city. There a large hall to seat 1,500, together with smaller buildings, will be erected, while some shops will furnish a revenue that will enable the skilled trustees to deal with the financial difficulty. This great enterprise, the greatest in the history of Scotch Methodism, will involve an outlay of £40,000.

Methodism has been making rapid strides in London within recent years. In 1861 there were only 13 circuits, with 43 ministers, 65 chapels and 15,834 members, while now there are 64 circuits and missions, 200 chapels, 139 ministers, and 36,758 members. During this period, since 1861, the sum of \$3,500,000 has been expended in chapel building, of which sum London Methodists have given more than two-thirds.

### EVANGELICAL CONGRESS IN ENGLAND.

The annual Congress of the English Evangelical Free Churches was held last month in Bristol, England. We have just received its report. There were present 800 delegates, representing 6,000,000 Nonconformists. Dr. Clifford, of London, presided. He declared that "the period of competitive warfare had ended, and that of inspiring and consecrated co-operation had begun." He also claimed that while the communicants

of the Anglican Church throughout the English-speaking world numbered 3,000,000; the Methodists numbered 7,000,000; the Baptists, 4,000,000; the Presbyterians, 3,000,000; and the Congregationalists, 1,000,000.

### PRIMITIVE METHODIST AND BIBLE CHRISTIAN UNION.

At a joint committee-meeting, held in April, eighteen District Committees reported in favour of this movement, five against, and one uncertain. The affirmative votes were 795, the negative 252, neutral 71. The proposed name meeting most favour seems to be "Methodist Union Church," with the addition of the word Primitive Methodist and Bible Christian in Brackets. Further action is yet to be taken before this union can be accomplished.

### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

Our friends of the Methodist Episcopal Church have grappled with their missionary debt of \$186,000, and have reduced it to less than \$70,000. One of their papers suggest that the Epworth Leagues take a vigorous part in wiping out the balance. Though they are not largely wage-earning, yet a minimum of five dollars from each League would wipe out the debt. It would be a grand declaration of sympathy with the cause of missions.

At the time we write the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is in session in the city of Baltimore. It is interesting to remember that in this city, at the Christmas Conference held in 1874, the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the Methodist Episcopal Church, South was then a part, was organized. There are now nearly a hundred Methodist churches in Baltimore. The Rev. Dr. Griffin is the fraternal delegate from our own Church to this Conference. We have not yet seen the report of his address, but we may be sure it will reflect credit on himself and on the Church which he represents. The following figures report the progress of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South during the last quadrennium: The increase in the number of church-edifices is 901½; of effective travelling preachers, 492; of local preachers, the decrease is