

## ITEMS.

Primitive Methodism, according to its President, is "a spiritual democracy," and its Conference included two women amongst its delegates. They have 200,000 members, and 460,000 scholars in their Sunday-schools. The attention of the Conference was drawn to the great falling off in the increases in their membership.

The Methodist New Connexion Conference was aroused over "Church extension," pledging itself to raise £10,000 for that purpose. They secured a subscription of 2,300 guineas for that fund at the Conference.

The most interesting event in the Irish Wesleyan Conference was the spontaneous effort to raise the remaining 3,500 guineas to complete the proposed fund of 52,000. This Conference is in close touch with the English Wesleyan Conference. The President of the latter is also President of the Irish Conference, and the legislation of the Irish Conference has to have the sanction of the English Conference before it becomes law. Besides the President they send three representatives; this year Dr. Walford Green, the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes and Mr. J. Bayley Lees were sent.

The Bible Christian Conference was held this year in Penzance, "the first and the last town in England, at Land's End, among the hearty, hospitable Cornish folk.

Laymen are to have a larger participation in church government in the British Wesleyan Church than they have ever had before, and the number of laymen will hereafter equal the number of ministers, namely, three hundred. Laymen are also to be associated in the management of the Book Room.

The Rev. Hugh Price Hughes is appointed to visit Australian Methodism in 1902. It is to be hoped that he will go to Australia *via* Canada, and so pay a visit to Canadian Methodism.

After thirty years of eminently successful work as Principal of the Children's Home, which he founded, and which has rescued nearly five thousand children from sorrow, shame and sin, the Rev. Dr. Stephenson retires from that office. He re-enters the pastoral work, and is stationed at the charming watering-place of Ilkley, where his health, it is hoped, will rapidly improve. The Rev. A. E. Gregory has been elected as his successor as Principal of the Children's Home.

The Rev. W. H. Findlay was elected Missionary Secretary, and succeeds Mr. Olver, who has become a supernumerary.

The President-elect for the English Wesleyan Conference is the Rev. W. T. Davison, D.D. The Rev. Marshall Hartley was elected Secretary for 1901.

The *Outlook* says: "The recent annual Conference shows as vigorous life in British as in American Methodism. For the third successive year over two million dollars are to be expended in church-building. Ninety-five new chapels are to be erected, forty-five of them in places where there have been none of the Wesleyan order."

## RECENT DEATHS.

The widely lamented death of Mr. W. H. Culver, of Winnipeg, has removed, in comparatively early life, a much-respected citizen of that city, and left a gap in the ranks of the supporters and workers of Grace Methodist Church that cannot soon be filled. A graduate of Victoria College, a lawyer of keen and vigorous intellect and energetic business habits, Mr. Culver had been for many years one of the most enterprising and successful of Winnipeg's citizens. He grew with the growth of the city, and took a deep interest in all its affairs, civic, social, and philanthropic. His attachment to Grace Church was warm and practical, and his time and his means were freely given in aid of various departments of the church's work. The bereaved family will have the sympathy of a large circle of friends.

## REV. DR. GREGORY.

Benjamin Gregory was born at Stokesley, November, 1820. He was converted to God while yet a scholar at the Grove school, and endured some little persecution because of his Christian constancy. From a pupil he became a master at the same school. He entered the ministry in 1840 and preached at the following stations with great success—Southampton, Hull, Barnsley, Waterloo, Altrincham, Lambeth and Oxford. His twenty-five years of editorship of the *Magazine* began in 1868, the prominent features of which were: the conscientious diligence given to every minutest detail, the enormous amount of matter contributed by the editor himself—reminiscences, character-sketches, reviews of books, both signed and unsigned—and the determina-