

One of the greatest advantages of this missionary work is the reflex benefit to the young people themselves, by the diffusion of missionary enthusiasm. We hope that the Epworth Leagues everywhere springing into existence will take an active part in promoting missionary work. The following is the provision made in the Constitution of the League for this purpose:—"Missionary Committee, this Committee shall promote the interests of the Missionary Anniversary, The Woman's Auxiliary, and the Mission Band, and seek to interest the members of the League in all ways in missionary topics."

"They should provide for missionary prayer-meetings, and present at such meetings items of interest from home and foreign missions, and endeavor, as the pastor may direct, to supplement by personal solicitation the public appeals for contributions." See Matt. xxviii. 19, 20; Rom. x. 14, 15.

Where there are already Young People's Mission Bands and the Mission Circles we hope that the Leagues will heartily co-operate with them; indeed, they would form an admirable department of the League itself. Where there are such Circles and Bands we would suggest that the Leagues and Sunday-schools would form such Mission Bands or Circles.

Centennial Number of Methodist Magazine Free.

THE *Methodist Magazine* for March, 1891, was a special Wesley Centennial number. It contains 112 pages, with articles by the editor on "Footprints of Wesley," with numerous engravings; "John Wesley and His Mother," by Dr. Potts, with fine portrait of Susanna Wesley; "Last Days of John Wesley," by Luke Tyerman; a noble poem on "Epworth," by Dr. Dwight Williams; "Wesley as Seen by His Contemporaries;" "Wesley and His Literature," by the late William Morley Punshon; and "Methodism in the Eighteenth Century," by the Editor.

The special feature of the *Magazine* is a symposium on "Methodism: Its Work and Influence," contributed by representative writers, not one of whom is a Methodist. Among these writers are Prof. Goldwin Smith, LL.D., the Rev. Dr. McMullen, ex-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Canada; Rev. John Barton, B.D., of the Congregational Church; the Rev. G. M. Milligan, of the Presbyterian Church, Sir Samuel L. Tilley, C.B., K.C.M.G., Lieut. Governor of New Brunswick; the Hon. G. W. Allan, late Speaker of the Dominion Senate; Rev. Prof. Gregg, of Knox College, and the Hon. O. Mowat, Premier of the Province of Ontario. This number, and especially this symposium, have attracted much attention, as among the best Centennial commemorations published in either the Old World

or the New. It should be in the possession of every Methodist family of the Dominion. We have printed a large number in order to supply the large demand, and can still furnish this souvenir number at twenty cents a copy, or all new subscribers to the *Magazine* for 1892, will receive this Centennial number free.

All old subscribers to the *Magazine* who will send in addition to his own subscription, that of some new subscriber for the year, at full subscription rate, will receive free a magnificent lithograph portrait in oil colors, of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. This is a *fac-simile* copy of the famous portrait by Romilly, which is considered the best extant. With these two special inducements we anticipate a large increase in the subscription list of our connexional *Magazine*, which has been characterized by an English critic "as an ideal family magazine," as shown by its announcement elsewhere. It will be stronger and better during 1892, than any previous year.

Sunday-schools and the Epworth League at the Ecumenical.

In the Pastoral Address of the Ecumenical Conference, to the 25,000,000 of Methodists whom it represented, occurs the following, referring to the Sunday-schools and Epworth Leagues of Methodism:

We feel that our Sunday-schools have not as yet realized their vast possibilities. But the home is the great nursery of religious faith and life. There are one-sided theories of conversion which prevent our looking for signs of the religious life with the dawn of intelligence and the first development of will. False tests, in which the nature of children is quite forgotten, prevent us from finding them. We would that parents should feel that they can hardly look too early for the faint beginnings of the spiritual life in the hearts of their children, nor too carefully foster them. At the same time we must insist, as we have always done, that the mature religious life should be definite and conscious. It may arise as gradually and gently as a summer morning breaks; it ought to become as clear and self-attesting as a summer noon.

The young people of our Church have occupied the attention of the Conference. In the formation and wonderful progress of the great societies on the American continent, such as the Epworth League, we greatly rejoice. We should be glad if similar societies adapted to other conditions, could be established in other parts of the Methodist world. To bring young people together under its hallowing influence, to watch over their reading and recreation in which so many perils lie; to combine and direct their ardor and energy to suitable forms of benevolent work is surely one of the highest duties of the Church.