

Colonel Joseph M. Bennett, of Philadelphia, has given in various forms \$200,000 to the Methodist Church. He is not a Methodist, but his mother was, and her dying request to him was to do some service to the Church with his wealth.

THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Dr. John A. Williams, one of the General Superintendents, has formed the Conference in British Columbia, of which the Rev. E. Robson was elected President. This is a well-earned honour. The Rev. Joseph Hall is Secretary. An increase of two hundred and sixty-one members is reported. The Crosby Girls' Home contains nineteen girls and one boy. Since its organization it has given shelter to one hundred children. There is a deficiency of funds of \$300. At the Naas River Orphanage, established seven years ago about forty boys have been cared for.

The Conference recommends the formation of industrial schools for Indian children. Not less than ten stations are left without missionaries. The new Conference has been inaugurated under very favourable circumstances.

As these notes are being prepared the Montreal Conference is in session in the city of Kingston. It is a somewhat remarkable coincidence that the newly-elected President, the Rev. Dr. Shaw, should be a native of this city, and that here also he was converted, preached his first sermon, here also he was ordained, and now he occupies the chair of Conference. Rev. W. Jackson, who has held the position of Secretary of Conference nine years, was cordially thanked for his services. This is an unusual term. We are glad to record the fact that the net increase of members is two thousand five hundred and fifty-nine.

In the first draft of stations a new district appears, known as Nippising. The terms "to be supplied," and "one to be sent," appear no less than twenty-one times; six of which are in the French district, which may teach us that there is still need for more labourers.

It will gratify our readers to know that the past year has been one of great prosperity in connection with the Book Room and Publishing House; \$6,000 of the profits was donated to the Superannuated Ministers' Fund, which enabled the Treasurer to pay the claimants in full.

The Endowment Fund has now reached \$169,548, and the income is \$19,996. In 1868 the income was only \$4,000. The fees last year amounted to \$8,476.

The Methodist denomination in Philadelphia eclipses all others in that city as to the number of churches. It now has one hundred and twenty-eight churches, fourteen of which are coloured.

Judge Macdonald, of Brockville, of the Church of England Synod, was introduced and extended fraternal greetings, and urged co-operation in mission work.

The past year has also been one of unusual prosperity in connection with Victoria University. The graduating class numbered thirty-two. The total number of graduates is two thousand two hundred and nineteen, of whom five hundred and forty-two are in arts.

The itinerancy subjects ministers, and their families to many inconveniences, but, happily, the joys exceed the sorrows. Some of our brethren whose term of labour expires on their respective circuits at the close of the Conference year, received many flattering encomiums from their people. Dr. Potts was awarded a gold-headed cane by the Sunday-school children of Elm Street Church, Toronto; the Rev. J. E. Starr, on leaving Berkeley Street, in the same city, received a purse containing \$200 in gold, and Mrs. Starr was the recipient of a massive gold watch and chain. Mr. Starr has been appointed to labour in the British Columbia Conference.

The following brethren received, at the late Convocation of Victoria University, the honorary degree of D.D.: Rev. B. Lane, New York; Rev. W. Pirritte, Canada; Rev. W. Williams, Canada; Rev. W. Pascoe, Canada. We congratulate these