

Connexion Church, has been erected in the Mission Church at Tientsin, the entire cost having been subscribed by his friends at North China.

Concerning the Sabbath-school at Tokio, Mr. Bishop, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, writes to the Mission Rooms: "It is nominally under my charge, though the work is done chiefly by a Japanese. Here from 50 to 150 assemble each Sunday—dirty little urchins, many of them with younger children upon their backs, but they can recite the commandment, creed, Lord's prayer, and catechism, with a vim that might well put the majority of Sunday-schools in America to the blush. Often on the streets we hear some little voices piping, 'Ah, Iyesu di su,' (Jesus loves me) and we are encouraged to feel that all the seed sown will not be lost."

#### THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ORATORY.

We quote from the *Guardian* the following notice of this institution: "The National School of Oratory and Elocution commenced its summer session at Cobourg, on Monday, 3rd inst., with over sixty students in attendance, including several ministers of our own and other Churches. Some students have come from as far as the West Indies, Texas, and California, and there are representatives of nearly every State in the Union, and from Canada. The Victoria College authorities have granted the College lecture-rooms for the use of the classes during the summer. This school is very highly commended by Bishop Simpson and many other eminent ministers of the

United States. Dr. Nelles, President of Victoria University, also speaks in the highest terms of the faculty of instruction, which, he says, is composed of really competent and excellent teachers. The members of the faculty, five in number, have expressed themselves as being very much pleased with Cobourg, and gratified with the successful opening of their summer session.

"In all probability this excellent School of Elocution will become a permanent institution in the town of Cobourg during the summer months."

The English Wesleyan papers are rejoicing over a large prospective increase of members this year. Says *The Watchman*:—"This year, there is good reason to hope, the Conference will receive from the various districts in Great Britain reports of increased membership in the Methodist societies, amounting in all to about 12,000. Such a fact is, indeed, a cause for devout gratitude, and we doubt not that it has already sent a thrill of gladness and thankfulness through many hearts. We have not had to report an equally large increase since 1876, when the additions to our societies numbered 14,876."

It goes on to show that, in the past ten years, there were six years of increase and four of decrease in the societies in Great Britain. The total decrease for the four years was 5,941, while the increase for the six years was 39,717, leaving a net increase in the ten years of 33,776, or an average increase of considerably over 3,000 a year.