

ous than even the Salvation Army, which has sprung into existence during the last twenty years. There are in England 10,000 parishes, and in nearly 9,000 of that number the Roman Catholic Church is not even represented. The Baptists, the Congregationalists, the Wesleyan Methodists, and the Primitive Methodists are each far more numerous than the Roman Catholics. The Wesleyan Methodists alone have ten times as many chapels in this kingdom as the Roman Catholics. The Romanists are a very small fraction of the people, and such strength as they possess is almost entirely due to the European emigration. Were it not for the Irish in our great cities the Roman Catholic Church would scarcely exist in England. To take a detailed case, London: where it might be supposed that the influence of Cardinal Manning would have done something to extend his Church. But, as a matter of fact, in the official document from which we are quoting, only 200,000 are put down to the Archbishopric of Westminster—200,000 out of 5,000,000."

THE LESSON OF THE EPIDEMIC.

One thing that the strange epidemic which has been sweeping around the world should teach us, is the exceeding frailty of the tenure by which we hold our life and health.

A mysterious influence, so subtle that no analysis can detect it, that no scalpel can dissect it, that no test can discover it, pervades a whole hemisphere, and before its malign influence unnumbered thousands are laid prostrate. It is no respecter of persons. Monarch and beggar, prince and peasant succumb to its power. No royal purple, no lordly palace, no countless wealth can procure exemption. We may well be admonished how frail we are, upon what slender threads we hold our lives. How important it is that we live wisely and well, so that whensoever the summons for either sickness or death, it find us not unprepared. We should also recognize the good providence of God who maintains us year after year in health without a thought or care on our part. While it is true that we take no note of time, but by its lapse, it is also true that we often take no thought of our health, but with its loss. We should realize more than ever that this is not our home, that we are only pilgrims and strangers, as all our fathers were, that we seek another country, even a heavenly, a city that is out of sight, where the inhabitants never say, I am sick, or I am weary, but where with loftier powers, with nobler faculties, with emancipated powers, in a world without end, we may serve God day and night in His temple on high.

Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

BY THE REV. E. BARRASS, D.D.

WESLEYAN METHODIST.

The £2,000 sterling required to meet the deficiency for the West London Mission has been paid. Arrangements are being made for meetings in provincial towns in connection with other missions.

The Convention at City Road was a remarkable success.

A valedictory service was held at York to bid adieu to a local preacher who goes to China "as a missionary tradesman." He will join the Rev. David Hill, and will take charge of the institution for the blind.

Rev. Alexander McAulay has gone to South Africa to labour as an evangelist at his own expense.