

THE WESLEYANS.

The Wesleyans in England seem to be in far from a happy state. It is true that they are ever boasting of the twenty to thirty millions of Methodists in the world, and arguing that there must be a future for a Church of such wonderful growth in 150 years; but they forget that if in accordance with Wesley's teaching they had remained a body of lay teachers in the Church, they would have had a much more assured position. In their endeavour to form themselves into an independent Church they are driven further and further away from Wesley's teaching and practice.

I cannot find that their numbers are at all increasing in proportion to the increase of our population, and as it appears to me, they are on the eve of fresh divisions. They find the class meetings, once their great strength, to be unpopular and contrary to the spirit of the times; then the itinerant preachers and the three years' limit, which would work admirably as an adjunct to the Church, with its settled parochial ministry, is found a burden to those who desire to make Wesleyanism into an independent organization.

It is allowed that such increase as is to be found is in the West-end Mission, which is worked on lines freer than old Wesleyan rules, and must be very distasteful to some of the Methodists of the older school. The Primitives have long had the exclusive control of the lower orders, but the Salvation Army and Church Army are making great advances in this particular field.

All this has caused many searchings of heart among Wesleyans;

but try as they will they will only succeed in making a *new congregational* body, and as they seem to long for a more highly educated ministry and to minister to the more highly educated classes, in their endeavor to 'adapt Wesleyanism to its modern environments,' they will find themselves in competition with the Baptist and Congregational Churches; and will certainly fall far short of that Catholicity which marks the true Church as ministering at once to all classes of our people.—*Earl Nelson in Church Bells.*

YOU DON'T PRAY

A Christian brother who had fallen into darkness and discouragement was staying at the same house with Dr. Finney one night. He was lamenting his condition, and Dr. Finney, after listening to his narrative, turned to him with his peculiar, earnest look, and, with a voice that sent a thrill through his soul, said: "You don't pray! that is what's the matter with you. Pray; pray four times as much as ever you did in your life, and you will come out."

He immediately went down to the parlor, and taking a Bible he made a serious business of it, stirring up his soul to God as did Daniel, and thus he spent the night. It was not in vain. As the morning dawned he felt the Sun of Righteousness shine upon his soul. His captivity was broken, and ever since he has felt that the greatest difficulty in the way of men being emancipated from their bondage is that they "don't pray." "Pray without ceasing." "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint."—*Jackson Church News.*