

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held at Exeter Hall. There was a crowded attendance. Dr. G. Smith of Camborne, was called to the chair. In opening the proceedings, he said that the more he looked at this Society, both at home and abroad, he felt they had to the full the Divine blessing. After some earnest remarks, he urged that every exertion should be made to increase their resources, and he saw no reason why they should not raise during the present year £150,000.

Dr. Hoole read the financial statement and general summary, from which it appeared that the contributions to the Society for the year ending 31st December 1861, amounted to £187,280, 0s. 7d. The home receipts were £101,613, 0s. 9d.; and the foreign receipts, £35,666, 19s. 10d. New donations or annuities amounting to £1325 have also been received, but are not reported as income until they become available.—

The payments and general expenditure, including the cost of the China Mission for the year, £136,067, 16s. 4d.; special contributions for the extension of the mission in China, £2500; the balance of 1860, £248, 7s.; made together, £138,811, 4s. 1d, leaving a balance of £1531, 3s. 6d. due to the general treasurer. Amongst the legacies were the late Thos Farmer, Esq.; £1000, free of legacy duty; G. B. Chappell, of Manchester, £900; Jas. Lee of Mirfield, Yorkshire, £900; and numerous other legacies, varying from £500 to £50. There had been among the donations one from a Wesleyan lady of £1000; John Robinson Kay, Esq., £1000; Thos. Farmer, Esq., £700; in memory of the late Richard Ripley, Esq., £500; by Mrs. Ripley, for the same purpose, of £105; anonymous, £500, etc. The legacies amounted to £5720, 12s. 10d.

The Rev. Jno. James read the report, detailing the progress of the various missions throughout the world. Twenty-five missionaries have been sent out during the year—1 to Germany, 3 to Italy, 1 to Spain, 1 to Madras, 1 to China, 7 to South Africa, 1 to Sierra Leone, 1 to Antigua, 1 to the Gold Coast, 1 to St. Christopher, 1 to Tortola, 2 to Barbadoes, 4 to Demerara, 3 to Jamaica, 1 to Honduras, 1 to the Ba-

hamas, and 1 to Newfoundland. Seven missionaries have been removed by death.

The following is a general summary of the Society's labours and agency:—

Central or principle stations, called circuits, occupied by the Society in various parts of the world,	565
Chapels and other preaching places,	4,379
Ministers and assistant-missionaries, including thirty-nine supernumeraries,	849
Other paid agents, as catechists, interpreters, day-school teachers, etc,	1,025
Unpaid agents, as Sabbath-school teachers, etc,	15,303
Full and accredited church members,	142,285
On trial for church membership,	13,492
Scholars, deducting for those who attend both the day and Sabbath-schools,	147,638
Printing establishments,	8

In Spain Mr. Alton, after visiting Lisbon, Madrid, and Gibraltar, has paid two visits to Cadiz, where he has discerned some remaining fruit of the Society's former labours, and is encouraged to attempt additional efforts for the benefit of his countrymen and others. His plans are not as yet completely formed; and if they were, it might not be proper to publish them while the Spanish Government continues to display a spirit of intolerance.

In Italy, Mr. Piggott, in company with Mr. Green have been employed in exploratory tours, with a view to ascertain how the operations of the Society in the interesting country to which they are appointed might be most effectually and economically carried on without interference with the labours of other evangelical bodies. No definite conclusion has yet been reached, but the Committee would have been much assisted in their deliberations by having a larger number of missionaries at their disposal. "A great door, and effectual," is undoubtedly open.

Returns from most of the Asiatic, and African stations show a small but steady and gratifying increase in the numbers of converts, and considerable additions to the scholars.