

the Society consists of persons subscribing one guinea or more, annually, and of benefactors making a donation of ten pounds and upward—of whom there are about 4,500. The total receipts for the year 1880 were about \$541,000. We need only mention the names of the Rev. William Ellis, the author of "Polynesian Researches," and Dr. Mullens, who died in Central Africa two years ago, in support of the statement that the London Missionary Society has been especially fortunate in its foreign secretariat. It may be added that this Society did not retain its cosmopolitan character very long. Owing to the formation of other denominational associations it gradually became dependent for its support upon the Congregational Church of England, which now, and with good reason claims this Society as its own.

THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY was instituted in London in 1799. It differs in its constitution from the S. P. G. Society, in that while that Society was originally formed chiefly for the benefit of British Colonists, the expressed aim of this was to reach the heathen in pagan lands. More recently, it has come to be identified with the Evangelical party in the Church of England, while the other is supposed to have the sympathy and support of the High Church party. That, however, is a mere accident. There does not appear to be any ungenerous rivalry betwixt the two kindred societies, and both are doing a grand work. The first missionaries sent out by the Church Missionary Society were: Revs. Messrs. Renner and Hartwig, who commenced a mission at Sierra Leone in 1804. Since that time the Society has gradually extended its operations to many lands. It has now five missions in Africa, one in Palestine, one in Persia, four in India, besides its missions in Ceylon, the Mauritius, China, Japan, New Zealand, the N.-W. Territories of Canada, and the Coasts of the North Pacific. In all, it occupies 200 stations. It has in its service 211 European missionaries, 219 native clergymen, and 3,102 native Christian teachers. The number of native adherents is 158,835, communicants 34,625, and of scholars 63,738. Nearly half of its whole foreign expenditure belongs to India, no less than 120 European missionaries being maintained there, and upwards of a thousand schools. In the Tinnivelly district there are fifty-seven native pastors, 647 native agents, 9,517 communicants, and 38,657 baptized Christians. The Sierra Leone Church has 18 native pastors, 5,351 communicants, and 15,782 adherents. The terms of membership are similar to those of the S. P. G. Society. The total receipts for 1880, were \$1,037,500—by far the largest amount contributed by any Society in the world for missionary purposes.

THE WESLEYAN-METHODIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The Church of the Wesleys had been long engaged in foreign missions before

this great Society was formally inaugurated. As early as 1769, two zealous preachers, Richd. Boardman, and Joseph Pilmoor, volunteered their services as missionaries to America, and began a work which was destined in time to become a mighty power in the New World. While the hands of John Wesley were fully occupied in organizing the Church of which he was the founder in England, another master-spirit appeared, in the person of Dr. Coke, who, from his enthusiasm and fitness for the task, was charged with the general oversight of the foreign mission work that had been undertaken by various local branches of the Methodist Church. In the year 1786, accompanied by three other preachers, Messrs. Warrener, Clarke, and Hammet, Dr. Coke sailed for Halifax, N. S., but owing to a succession of storms their ship was driven from its course and carried to the West Indies. They landed at Antigua, where they met with so favourable a reception from the inhabitants that they resolved upon the establishment of a mission in the West Indies. Their influence soon extended to all the principal Islands. In many quarters they met with opposition, and were made to feel keenly the prejudices which existed against the new sect; but they laboured on with their characteristic zeal and perseverance. In the prosecution of his arduous duties Dr. Coke crossed the Atlantic eighteen times, and established a number of missions. For the support and enlargement of these and others which he had begun in India, the Methodist Missionary Society was instituted in 1817, at which time the Wesleyans had already upwards of one hundred missionaries employed in foreign fields of labour. The Society has its headquarters in London, and is managed by a committee of sixty members, of whom one half are clergymen, and the other half laymen. One half of the committee are elected from residents in the metropolis. The Methodist churches of America and Australia have now their own Missionary Societies. The British Conference has under its immediate direction extensive missions in Europe, India, China, South and West Africa, and the West Indies. In all, they have 535 missionaries and assistant-missionaries, 2,089 other paid agents, such as catechists and teachers, besides an army of 8,647 unpaid agents—local preachers and sabbath-school teachers; 93,162 church-members, and 96,223 scholars in their schools. If to these figures were added the statistics of the American and Australasian Churches, the numbers would require to be doubled. The total income of the British Society for 1880 was \$650,465—exclusive of the sums raised and expended in the mission fields, which are estimated at \$550,370.