

number, carefully examined everything sent to them and then presented their recommendations to Conference. In most cases the recommendations of the committees were adopted. There were some exceptions. Several verbal changes in the Discipline were adopted. A commission was appointed to sit during the quadrennium to examine the Book of Discipline and report such alterations and amendments as they may deem necessary to the next General Conference. There were some memorials to extend the pastoral terms to five years; the committee on the itinerancy recommended four years, which at first was accepted by the Conference, but on reconsideration the report was not adopted. The term therefore remains as it is at present, being limited to three years.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

This is always an interesting episode in the proceedings of Conference. The following appointments were made :—

Revs. A. Carman, D.D., General Superintendent, to hold office for eight years; J. A. Williams, D.D., to hold office for four years; W. Briggs, D.D., Book Steward, Toronto; S. F. Huestis, Book Steward, Halifax; E. H. Dewart, D.D., Editor of *Christian Guardian*; W. H. Withrow, D.D., Editor of *MAGAZINE* and Sunday-school publications; J. Lathern, D.D., Editor of the *Westeyan*; J. Potts, D.D., Secretary of Educational Society, A. Sutherland, D.D., Missionary Secretary; John Macdonald, Esq., Missionary Treasurer.

#### WESLEYAN METHODIST.

The Conference of 1886 of the parent body of Methodism was held in City Road Chapel, London. The Rev. Robert Newton Young, D.D., was elected President. Dr. Young has the honour to be the first President's son elected to this office. He was born at Halifax, Nova Scotia, where his father was stationed as a Wesleyan missionary. He is the second President which Canada has given to the English Conference;

Dr. Pope, who was President a few years ago, was also born in the Dominion of Canada. Dr. Young has long occupied a prominent place in the British Conference, of which he has been Secretary for several years. His most elaborate literary work is a condensed edition of Dr. Adam Clarke's Commentary of the Holy Scriptures.

The Conference was more numerously attended than usual, there being over 1,000 ministers present. The vacancies in the ranks of the "Legal Hundred" were filled by the Revs. H. P. Hughes, M.A., R. Martin, S. Whitehead, F. Kellett, G. Alton, and J. D. Powell. The Rev. D. J. Waller was elected Secretary. There were delegations from the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, Bishop Foss and Dr. Hunt; the Methodist Conference in France, the Irish Conference, South African Conference, and the Methodist Church in Canada. Our readers may be sure that Dr. Sutherland, the Canadian delegate, was not behind the chiefest of his associates. We learn that he "mingled much wisdom with the witty and happy remarks which made his speech to sparkle and glisten."

Thirty ministers had died during the year. Probably those best known were Revs. Dr. Geden, H. W. Holland, Jos. Hargreaves, and Dr. Lyth. Mr. Hargreaves had been 57 years in the ministry and was beloved for his saintly character; Dr. Geden was Theological Tutor, and the four others were distinguished for authorship as well as preaching ability.

One of the most interesting meetings held in connection with the Conference was the "Recognition of Returned Missionaries." Those noble champions of the cross are always cordially received in the parent Conference. Their stirring tales of heroism and triumphs in the high places of the Church greatly cheer their brethren and tend to fan the missionary spirit among the churches at home. This year there were representatives from Jamaica, Ceylon, Natal, Negapatam, and Antigua, who told of the success of the Gospel among persons of various relative