

WES. MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

From the Watchman)

The Annual Meeting

On Monday, (April 20th.) the Public Meeting of the Society was held in Exeter Hall (London). The attendance was as numerous as on any former occasion. The platform was crowded by Ministers and leading Friends.

At eleven o'clock, the Rev. Mr. Alder commenced the proceedings by giving out the Hymn beginning "Come, let us join our cheerful songs," and reading the 96th Psalm—after which the Rev. Dr. NEWTON engaged in prayer.

The Rev. Dr. ALDER, said—I have great satisfaction in announcing that the proceedings of the present meeting will be presided over by the Right Hon. Fox Maule, (Lord Clerk), who, in addition to the valuable services which he has rendered to this Society upon former occasions, has, in compliance with the earnest request of the committee, kindly consented to take the chair to-day. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Fox Maule having ascended to the chair, said—Ladies and gentlemen, before I commence the observations which it will be my duty to make with respect to the business that has called us together this morning, permit me to thank you most cordially for the kind reception which you have given my name on the present occasion; and believe me that nothing affords me more satisfaction than testifying publicly from time to time the deep sympathy which I feel in the prosperity of the Wesleyan body, (hear, and cheer.)

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The committee had considered it their duty to regard and restrict the expenditure with economy, they have been assisted by generous friends at home and by the Missionary Foreign Stations. In several instances, gratuitous passages for Missionaries had been offered by generous ship-owners. The committee were enabled to avail themselves, in their anxiety to economize, the Committee continued to decline sending a supply to stations on which various other circumstances, ought to have been stronger than additional help; the Committee had also declined every inviting new openings. The Committee were encouraged, by the income of the past year, to hope that the restrictive system would not need to be maintained much longer.

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Balance of Income over Expense, £3,117 2 11

Product this amount from the deficiency reported last year, viz. 13,428 16 1

The total Ordinary Receipts at the Mission-house, and from the Districts in England, Scotland, and Wales, have been £4,167 4 8

Total Ordinary Home Income, £8,424 10 5

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Among the Legacies received were: Peter Bodwell, Esq. Bolton, £2,500; James Wood, Esq. late of Grove House, Manchester, £2,000; James H. Wood, Esq. M.P., John D. Burton, Esq., and Francis Sutherland, Esq., Leith, David White, Francis Sutherland, and Andrew Snowdy, Esqs., Executors, £500.

The following persons, in number seven, Missionaries, and ten wives of Missionaries, have been sent out by the Society since the last Anniversary: Mr. and Mrs. Cheesbrough, to Gibraltar; Miss Elliott and Miss Harris, to Ceylon; Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hardy and Miss Drewett, to Madras; Miss Watson, to Mysore; Mr. and Mrs. Oram, to New South Wales; Mr. and Mrs. Hull, to South Australia; Mr. and Mrs. George Chapman, to Albany, Cape of Good Hope; Mr. Wood, to St. Vincent's; Miss Allen, to Jamaica; Mr. Douglas, to Bermuda.

The following much lamented Missionaries have been removed by death: Mr. William Guard, at Donkneely, Ireland; Mr. Joseph Solers, late at Palaveram, near Madras; Mr. William Longbottom, at Adelaide, South Australia; Mr. Francis Whitehead, at Brisbane, Queensland; Mr. Robert L. Lusher, at Montreal, Eastern Canada; Mr. Matthew Lang, at St. John's, Eastern Canada; Mr. Sampson Bushy, at Portland, New Brunswick.

Correspondence. Several years ago, a watch-maker, residing in a town in which the writer lived, made a working model of a steam-engine, the packing-case of which was a walnut-shell. On showing it one day to a gentleman, the machine was suddenly stopped, the mechanic remarking, "There is something wrong in one of the safety-valves." "Safety-valve!" exclaimed the observer, "I have not yet been able to detect the fly-wheel!"

Irreparable Loss. The following item, given by an American Contemporary, will, we hope, operate as a caution to our readers to guard against similar losses: "Lost!—Yesterday, somewhere between sunrise and sunset, two golden hours, each secured with sixty diamond minutes. No reward is offered, for they are gone for ever."

A Sign of weakness. A person pointed out a man who had a profusion of rings on his fingers to a cooper,—"Ah master," said the artisan, "it is a sure sign of weakness when so many hoops are used."

Correspondence. Original Matter is particularly requested for this Paper on such subjects as Local Intelligence—Bingeries. Notices of the introduction, rise, and progress of Methodism in Circuits, Revivals, and remarkable Conversations—Articles on education, temperance, literature, science, and religion—Illustrations of Providence—Sketches of Scriptural characters—interesting anecdotes—descriptions of natural scenery—Papers on any prominent feature of Methodism, &c. &c.

Correspondence. Mr. Ennon. Since the decease of the late Rev. S. Baxton, Digby has not been favoured with a resident Minister; the District having, from various considerations, elected it, with the places below, to the Annual Circuit, thus giving a vast amount of extra labour to the Preacher stationed here, without, I am afraid, any additional advantage to the cause of God.

Mechanical Curiosity. Several years ago, a watch-maker, residing in a town in which the writer lived, made a working model of a steam-engine, the packing-case of which was a walnut-shell. On showing it one day to a gentleman, the machine was suddenly stopped, the mechanic remarking, "There is something wrong in one of the safety-valves." "Safety-valve!" exclaimed the observer, "I have not yet been able to detect the fly-wheel!"

Courtesies of Life. Cultivate the courtesies of life, for they are the complimentary expressions of benevolence, and the engaging endowments of social intercourse. The observance of them is a pleasing tribute paid to society; the neglect of them may be ill received, an occasion of offence.

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