

ling preachers, and 119,743 members, and a decrease of 406 local preachers. We must also take into consideration that during that time there have died 512 travelling preachers and 78,520 members. These must be added to the increase of four years, to show the actual number of members which have been received. In 1875 there were 15,633 church edifices, and 5,017 parsonages, valued at \$81,081,862. In 1879 there were 16,955 churches, and 5,689 parsonages. This shows an increase in the number of churches of 1,322, or more than one church for every working day in the four years; and an increase of 672 parsonages, or more than one for every two working days in the same period.

#### BOOK CONCERN.

The publishing interests of the Church, the earliest organized among its institutions, continue to be of great value and power. The sales of books and periodicals during the last four years—1875-1879—in New York, amounted to \$3,415,016, and in the Western Book Concern, to \$2,675,125—aggregating \$6,090,141.

#### MISSIONS.

The mission cause continues to occupy its position of prominence among the movements of the Church. The South India Conference, which was organized in 1876, has enlarged its field by extending in South India and Burmah. It now embraces three districts, with 37 travelling ministers, 45 local preachers, and 2,169 members and probationers. The mission in Japan gives promise of great success. In China, the Foochow Conference was organized in 1877, and now consists of 6 districts and 57 ministers, of whom 52 are native preachers. There are also 28 others employed as supplies, making 80 native laborers. Some of these fields are self-sustaining; and in all the spirit of heroic Christianity is evinced by many of the native ministers. In addition to the Conference of Foochow, the mission fields of North