

Wesleyan Intelligence.

(From the London Watchman, May 7th.)

The Annual Meeting of the Parent Society.

On Monday morning, the Annual Meeting of the Society was held, in Exeter Hall. At an early hour, the doors were beset by Members and Friends of the Society,—many of them from the country,—anxious to obtain the most eligible seats. On being thrown open, the body of the Hall rapidly filled;—and, at the commencement of the proceedings, the spacious building, except the back seats in the West Gallery, and in the organ recesses, was fully occupied, although admission was exclusively by ticket, and the doors were not thrown open, as formerly, after the meeting had commenced. On the platform, many ladies were accommodated.

Precisely at the hour appointed, eleven o'clock, the Rev. Dr. ALDER, one of the General Secretaries, gave out the hymn beginning—"Before Jehovah's awful throne;" after which the Rev. Dr. NEWTON, Secretary to the Conference, engaged in prayer.

The Rev. Dr. BURNING then came forward, and was received with loud and reiterated applause. He said,—It does so happen, in the ordination of Divine Providence, that it has now for a long course of years, fallen to what was deemed to be my official duty to announce to this assembled annual meeting the name of the gentleman, whom the committee had induced to accept the chair, and to undertake the presidency of the meeting. On no former occasion did I feel greater pleasure in making that announcement than on the present. (Great applause.) The choice of the committee very naturally, and I am sure the meeting will feel very happily and properly, fell upon one whom we have long known, and long loved, in every relation of life in which we have had to do with him,—(applause.)—a man to whom this society for now many years has been under the greatest obligations not merely for exemplary contributions, as they were needed, of a pecuniary character, but for the large and almost unprecedented devotion of time and personal labor. (Hear, and cheers.) I refer to Thomas Farmer, Esq., (cheers,) and I cannot trust myself in attempting to say all that might be said, and that—if there were a better person to say it—ought to be said; but I am sure you will make up any defect of mine by the manner in which you will receive the announcement that Thomas Farmer, Esq., will be our President this day. (Loud Applause.)

Mr. FARMER then took the Chair, amid the renewed plaudits of the meeting. He said—My dear friends, I sincerely regret to state that I feel myself at this time unequal to the delivery of an address which, in comprehensiveness and warmth, would express what, as chairman, as treasurer, and as a member of this society, I ought to say; but, though this is the case, I rejoice to know that there will be no regret felt at my lack of service, because I shall presently call your attention to the Report, which will comprehend all that could be said by me with reference to the operations of the society;—I shall then have the privilege of calling upon returned missionaries of our denomination and of others, who by their illustrations will support the testimony of the report, and render unnecessary what I might wish to say if I had it in my power to communicate it;—and I shall also have the privilege of calling upon several kind friends, some connected immediately with ourselves, and others connected with kindred churches, who will lay the great principles of the society upon your minds and upon your hearts, and whose eloquence it would be folly in me for a moment to attempt to imitate. I feel, therefore, the better satisfied that my weakness prevents my doing that which it is in my heart to do.—(Applause.) At the same time I may, I hope, be pardoned for thus early stating, that, having just now completed my twice seven years' service in this cause, I cannot allow the occasion to pass without, rendering my thanks to Almighty God that he has permitted me so long to be a co-worker with you in this great, good, and holy cause, and that he has permitted me with

yourself to witness so much pleasure of God's goodness towards heathen countries prospering in our hands; neither should I think it right to lose the opportunity—lest it may not be afforded me at the close of the meeting—of expressing my thankfulness to you for the kind indulgence with which you have received my services; and my gratitude I think bears some proportion to the sense I have of the many defects and imperfections with which those services have been accompanied. I throw myself, under these circumstances, upon your consideration in undertaking the responsibilities connected with the honor of filling the chair this day; and I humbly hope that, aided by your prayers—prayers fervent and effectual—which will be offered up this day, it may be my privilege, and the privilege of us all, to witness as holy, as unanimous, as happy, as productive a meeting on this occasion as we have been delighted to witness for many years. ("Hear," and applause.)

The Rev. E. HOOLE, one of the General Secretaries, read the FINANCIAL REPORT, from which we extract the following passages.

The Committee had the satisfaction to announce to the Subscribers and Friends of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, that the receipts of the Society for the year ending December 31, 1850, amounted to £104,661 14s. 4d. The following were the particulars.

	£ s. d.
The Total Ordinary Receipts at the Mission-House, and from the Districts in England, Scotland, and Wales, have been	68,922 7 5
The Hibernian Missionary Society	4,295 9 6
The Juvenile Christmas Offerings	5,000 9 3
Total Ordinary Home Income	£78,218 6 2
Contributions of Foreign Auxiliary Societies	12,420 8 1
Colonial Grants	5,930 1 3
Legacies	4,380 13 10
Donations on Annuity	130 0 0
Lapsed Annuities	2,909 1 10
Dividends, Interest, &c.	1,673 3 2
	£104,661 14 4

The Expenditure of the year amounted to £113,767 3s. 3d. showing a deficiency of Income, when compared to the expenditure, to the amount of £9,105 8s. 11d.—This deficiency the Committee had resolved to meet by the sale of a portion of the amount of donations on annuity which have been funded from time to time for the security of the annuitants. By this arrangement the funded property would be considerably reduced, but there would still remain in the Funds an amount equal to the Donations of living Donors;—thus affording to the annuitants a reasonable and sufficient security for the payment of their annuities. The advantage the Society gained by this arrangement was, that the Expenditure of the year was fully met without any addition to the Society's debt, which remained as last year.

"The Committee (continued the Report) offer their best thanks to the Contributors at large for the support they have afforded to this department of the cause of Christ during the past year. Many donations received have been accompanied by the most gratifying expressions of attachment to the Mission work. In many instances, the existence of agricultural distress, and other exigencies, have not been permitted to prevent the usual subscriptions, nor has the strong pressure of extraordinary claims, in many Circuits, been allowed to diminish the amount of Missionary contributions. The Committee know that many Collectors have nobly persevered in their self-denying labors under circumstances of great discouragement; to them most especial thanks are due; as well as to the Donors, Collectors, and Treasurers of the Christmas and New Years Juvenile Offerings, from which interesting source of Income a larger amount has been received than in many former years.

"The committee consider it due from them to make special mention of one Lega-

cy, included in the amount now announced, which they have received from the United States of America; that of the late John Young, Esq., amounting to £2,414 4s. 9d. In August last the Committee received a letter from the hon. Abbot Lawrence, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America in this country, calling their attention to a letter which he had received from Lawrence Lewis, Esq., of Philadelphia, the sole Executor of the Estate of the late John Young, Esq., in whose Estate the Society had considerable interest. A correspondence was thus opened which resulted in the payment of this munificent Legacy in sufficient time to be acknowledged in this Report. The Committee repeat the thanks which they have more privately communicated to Mr. Lewis for his able and judicious management of the Estate since the year 1834, when it fell into his care under the will of our deceased benefactor, and also for the readiness with which he paid over the amount, without that process of law which it was competent for him to have employed, but which would have delayed the payment of the money, and would have occasioned considerable expense. In this particular instance, as in other parts of their income, the Committee devoutly acknowledge the kind care and provision of a gracious and superintending Providence.

"To the kind Providence of God, and to the liberal consideration and support of the Friends of Missions, the Committee again commend the interests of this Society. The Society has no resource, except in the willing and benevolent contributions of the Friends of Christ and His sacred cause.—From the commencement of the Society, the Committee have never had in hand the Income of the year before they have incurred the Expenditure of the year, and consequently have never been able to make one quadrat exactly with the other. But although the large expenditure of the Society every year anticipates the Income, they have not hesitated to confide in the tried faith and love of the Friends of Missions; they have taken the past as the pledge of the future; and have for many years entered on an annual Expenditure of £100,000 without any Funds in hand for the year.—The Committee are now in the same circumstances. They commence the year without any Funds in hand. They are incurring an Expenditure on the Missions, from month to month, which they know will amount to more than £100,000 at the close of the year. The suggestions of worldly prudence and the remonstrance of friends are in this case of no avail. The practice under which the Society has grown up, and the actual state of things, permit of no alternative for the present year. The Committee must depend on the Income yet to be raised, to meet an Expenditure already determined to a great extent. And they fully anticipate that, through the good providence of God and his effectual blessing on the labors of Ministers and Collectors, and other friends of the Society, they shall be provided this year, as in former years, with the means of carrying on the great work committed to their care. At the same time, they are not insensible to the advantage and economy which would attend a change of system, should it be found practicable, and they gratefully acknowledge one liberal donation from a Wesleyan Minister, towards the formation of a Capital Fund.

The Details of the Contributions to the Funds of the Society received during the year 1850, from the several Auxiliary and Branch Societies, at home and abroad, and of the Income arising from other and miscellaneous sources, were then given.

The following persons, in number twenty Missionaries, and five wives of Missionaries, have been sent out by the Society, since the last Anniversary:—

Dr. Kessen, Mr. Hill, Mr. Rippon, to Ceylon; Mr. and Mrs. Moister, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, to the Cape of Good Hope; Mr. and Mrs. Spenseley, Mr. Gaskin, to Natal; Mr. and Mrs. Edney, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Fleicher, to Sierra Leone; Mr. Hurst, to the River Gambia; Mr. Gardner, Mr. Richards, to the Gold Coast; Mr. Edman, to St. Christopher's; Mr. Gregory, to Antigua; Mr. Rotherham, to St. Vincent;

Mr. Clegg, to Barbadoes; Miss Punchard, and Mr. Cannell, to the Bahamas; Mr. Bishop, to Hayti; Mr. Wells, to Newfoundland.

Of this number, Dr. Kessen, and Messrs. Moister, Thomas, and Edney, who have been before honourably and usefully employed in various Missions, but had returned home for a season, have been again appointed to the Foreign Work.

The following much-lamented Missionaries have been removed by death.

Mr. T. L. Hodgson, at Cape Town; Mr. Mortier, at St. Christopher's; Mr. E. S. Thompson, at Jamaica.

To this affecting record must be added that of three excellent Females, wives of Missionaries, who have also exchanged mortality for life.

The General SUMMARY of all the Wesleyan Missions was as follows:—

Central or Principal Stations, called Circuits, occupied by the Society in various parts of the world	322
Chapels and other Preaching Places, in connection with the above-mentioned Central or Principal Stations, as far as ascertained	3,106
Missionaries, and Assistant-Missionaries, including Fourteen Supernumeraries	432
Other Paid Agents, as Catechists, Interpreters, Day School Teachers, &c.	864
Unpaid Agents, as Sabbath School Teachers, &c.	8,071
Full and accredited Church Members (including Ireland)	104,335
On trial for Church Membership, as far as ascertained	7,846
Scholars, deducting for those who attend both the Day and Sabbath Schools	80,070
Printing Establishments	8

(To be continued.)

Family Circle.

Rich as a Jew.

BY OLD ALAN GRAY.

When I was a boy, I often used to walk out with my father, who seldom lost an opportunity of turning to advantage any little adventure we met with. He was always trying to make me wiser and better.

One day we stopped at the window of a jeweller's shop, that looked as fine as gold and jewels could make it. There were gold watches, and gold chains, and gold snuff boxes, and gold rings, and gold pins, and a hundred other things; and I thought to myself what a rich man the owner of the shop must be. I have forgotten one of the two names which were printed over the window; but the other name was Levi. "The owner of that shop," said my father, "is a Jew."

As we walked on, my father told me, that though the Jews had, according to the predictions of the ho'y scriptures, been scattered into all nations, and though they had been persecuted in almost every nation of the earth, yet many of them, by their industry, perseverance, and love of money, had amassed great wealth, so that the saying, "As rich as a Jew," became a proverb.

Soon after this we met a handsome carriage and two gray horses; the gentleman inside the carriage was a banker. I looked at the fine gray horses as they pranced by me, proudly arching their necks and snorting, and just then my father said to me, "That man is as rich as a Jew."

Before we had arrived at the end of the street, my father stopped a moment opposite a large house, in which he said lived a merchant, who had passed many years in India, and while he was speaking the merchant came out of the house and walked on before us. "That man," said my father, in a low tone of voice, "is as rich as a Jew."

On turning the next corner, an old man, with a clean but coarse and threadbare coat upon his back, walking with a stick, and carrying a basket of watercresses on his arm, were about to pass us, touching his hat; but my father stopped him, spoke kindly to him, and said that he intended to

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