

Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

BY THE REV. E. BARRASS, D.D.

WESLEYAN METHODIST.

In Calcutta, India, there is the largest increase in membership ever known.

The net connexional increase is : full members, 4,253 ; junior members, 2,196 ; candidates for the ministry, 126. The increase in the New Zealand Conference amounts to 7,380.

The Methodist May meetings were all of more than ordinary interest. The Rev. John Watson, better known as "Ian Maclaren," preached one of the missionary sermons.

An increase of income of more than \$12,500 for the Children's Home is reported. Archdeacon Farrar, with his usual fraternal spirit, gave the use of his church for a special service on behalf of this noble institution.

The ordinary income is \$17,970 more than last year, but it is still \$8,250 below the expenditure, although there had been retrenchments which exceeded \$10,000. The debt of the Society is \$152,390. Some forty English and 112 Eurasian women are employed by the Woman's auxiliary.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Foreign Missionary Society at the close of the year reported a deficit of \$386,336.

In Washington, D.C., Methodism leads in the number of churches, there being twenty-six.

The Ohio Wesleyan University has in preparation for work, or in the work, seventy missionaries.

The First Church, Chicago, has paid for church extension in that city, in twenty-nine years, \$502,800.

One in seven of all the Japanese on the Pacific coast are members or probationers of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The *Epworth Herald* has a circulation of eighty-five thousand copies, the profits of which for the past year amount to \$6,000.

There are two Swedish Conferences in the United States and forty thousand church members. There are sixteen Swedish churches in Chicago.

Bishop Thoburn says the largest number of high-caste converts are recorded in those districts where there are the largest number of low-caste converts.

The Bareilly Theological Seminary (India) has sent out 235 regular graduates of a three years' course, and a grand total of 505 who have been trained there.

A presiding elder writes from Colorado : "I have travelled by cars, stages and bicycles since June, 1894, 9,826 miles. That is an average of about 550 miles a week."

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society has thirteen hospitals and dispensaries, and ministers to about fifty thousand women through its medical missionaries.

Drew Theological Seminary library contains over five thousand volumes relating to Methodism, also three thousand pamphlets and many unpublished manuscripts. The entire library contains 31,770 volumes.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

The *Methodist Review* (quarterly), under the editorship of the Rev. Dr. Tigert, registered an increase of 1,200 subscribers since September.

METHODIST NEW CONNEXION.

Several circuit meetings in aid of the Centenary Fund have been held, at which large sums have been subscribed.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST.

The South Australian Conference has voted emphatically in favour of Methodist union on the basis agreed to by the Wesleyan and other Churches in the colony.