

a large number who have favoured this MAGAZINE with their patronage during the whole seventeen years of its existence. But, through deaths, removals and other causes we annually lose a number. Some, too, are offended at the application of the inflexible rule of this office which, without any possible discrimination, ceases to send the MAGAZINE except where ordered to be renewed. Nothing is further from the thought of publisher and editor than the idea of giving offence by this course, which is rendered inevitable by the system of book-keeping of the MAGAZINE; yet we have lost subscribers to our great regret from that cause. We trust our friends will all frankly recognize that it is only from a business necessity that this course is pursued, and that they will promptly renew their subscriptions so as to prevent any break in the reception of the MAGAZINE.

From our Announcement it will be seen that it will be better than ever. The Editor will personally contri-

bute to every number, and will be assisted by an able corps of writers. We hope our friends in renewing will endeavour also to send with their own the subscription at full rate of some neighbour or friend, and thus secure *free* the handsome portrait of John Wesley, painted in oil colours, after the painting by Romille, said to be the best extant. As a special inducement there will be sent free to every new subscriber the famous Wesley Centennial Number, of one hundred and twelve pages, filled with Wesley cuts, sketches, and the Symposium of Methodism, by Goldwin Smith and other distinguished writers, which attracted so much attention during the year. We hope we shall not lose a single old subscriber, and receive a great many new ones. During the past year the MAGAZINE has been increased by one hundred pages in size, and we hope with increased patronage to be able soon to add still another hundred to its annual volume.

Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

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

WESLEYAN METHODIST.

The martyrdom of Mr. Argent, of the Joyful News Mission in China, has excited great sorrow in England. He was a young man of great zeal, and was greatly beloved by all to whom he was known. He is the first Methodist martyr in China. His death took place in connection with the riot at Wuseech, when much mission property was also destroyed. The missionaries are full of hope that the death of their noble brother will be followed by a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, resulting in the conversion of many who now oppose the truth.

Rev. David Hill, who has been many years in China, insists that the fields are white unto the harvest, and expresses the hope that the

number of labourers may be largely increased.

All branches of Methodism in England have agreed to observe one week in November as a week of prayer. Prayer-meetings are to be held in every place of worship, whether large or small. Extensive preparations have been made to make the week a Pentecostal season. Our readers will join us in praying that the week of prayer may be the seed-time before the harvest.

Our fathers are evidently betaking themselves more to prayer, hence a missionary prayer-meeting is held every Friday at noon in the Centenary Hall, London, which is conducted either by the President of the Conference or some other minister who presides in his stead.