

## RELIGIOUS AND MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

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### METHODIST CHURCHES, ENGLAND.

The Annual Conference of the Primitive Methodists met at Scarborough in June. This Conference is peculiar in its constitution, as it consists of one-third ministers and two-thirds laymen. There were nearly two hundred representatives, the largest number that was ever in attendance. Three ministers were present from Canada and one layman from New South Wales. The Church is prospering greatly in the Australian Colonies. The increase of members in the whole Connexion is about 4,000. Some of the funds are largely deficient, particularly the Missionary and Superannuated Funds, though the latter is largely aided by the profits of the Book Room.

There is great demand for additional ministers in the Southern world. Sixty young men were received as candidates for the ministry.

The Bible Christian denomination has formed its missions in Australia into a separate Conference. There are twenty-five ministers and one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five members, with encouraging prospects.

The Welsh Calvinistic Methodists have just held their General Assembly in London. They report an increase of 5,700 members, have 112,000 communicants on the roll, and the Conference collections amounted last year to \$836,025.

We go to press too early to report the proceedings of the Wesleyan Conference, but we are glad that there has been an increase in the membership of about nine thousand, and that one hundred and eighty candidates are recommended by the Examining Committee to be re-

ceived on trial at the Conference. An irreparable loss has been sustained in the sudden removal of the Rev. G. T. Perks, M.A., who was seized with paralysis while preaching, and never rallied. He was only sixty years of age. He was an invaluable Missionary Secretary, and occupied a foremost place in the Conference. The last lines which he gave out in the pulpit were,—

"While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When my eyes shall close in death,  
When I rise to worlds unknown  
And behold Thee on Thy throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee."

### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, UNITED STATES.

Our brethren in the States are very busy just now with camp-meetings and Sunday-school conventions, at Chautauqua, Sea Cliff, and other places. These services are, doubtless, of great benefit to the Church. But for them many would probably backslide by their attendance at watering places. It is computed that fifteen thousand people attended the meeting at Sea Cliff on a recent Sabbath.

Great efforts have been made to increase the Missionary income, but the debt, which exceeds \$130,000, still remains as a great incubus. Bishop Andrews has returned from his tour round the world, and reports good results respecting the missions in Europe. Bishop Wiley, who was formerly a Chinese missionary, by the time these notes reach our readers will have gone to Japan, thence to China. He takes with him some additional missionaries, whose appointment has been secured by special donations, and a guaranteed maintenance for a certain time.