

odism in this great commercial metropolis. It has only recently been erected, and cost somewhere about \$300,000, and some whose knowledge is extensive testify that there is no Methodist edifice in the world to be compared with it.

Methodism has a history in Montreal of which its friends have no need to be ashamed. The difficulties with which it has had to contend have been neither few nor small. The Rev. Samuel Merwin was the first stationed minister in the city. This was in 1803; he was followed by such men as the Rev. Thomas Madden Nathan Bangs, D.D., and others.

After the War of 1812, Montreal and a large portion of the province was connected with the English Wesleyan Methodist Conference, when the city enjoyed the ministrations of such men as the Rev. Dr. Alder, Mathew Lang, Dr. Richey, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Stinson, and others. In 1853, Methodism in Canada East was united with the Canada Conference, and has gone forward until now there are in the city twelve churches, sixteen ministers, and about 5,000 members and adherents, besides a City Mission, a Scandinavian Mission, and two French Missions.

There is also a Theological College, under the watchful care of Dr. Douglas, himself one of the fruits of Methodism in Montreal; and a French Methodist Institute for the education of French young people, under the care of the Rev. William Hall, M.A., who is a native of the city. In the Institute there are eighty French young people in residence.

NUMERICAL STRENGTH.

Figures do not lie. It has sometimes however been said that statistics are only an approximation to the truth. Rev. G. H. Cornish, LL.D., is the General Conference statistician, and is always characterized by accuracy. He reports as follows:—Ministers, 1,748, increase for the quadrennium, 138; ministerial deaths, 77; members, 233,868, increase, 36,399; Sunday-schools, 3,173, increase, 498;

teachers, 28,411, increase, 4,165; scholars 226,050, increase, 34,865. Scholars meeting in class, 37,158, increase, 5,622; studying catechism, 36,486, increase, 3,614; signed temperance pledge, 49,419, increase, 12,138. Raised for missions by the schools in 1890, \$28,122, increase on 1886, \$7,360; for school purposes in 1890, \$105,313, increase, \$25,621. The sum raised during the quadrennium for ministers' support has been \$2,771,941; for missions, \$856,086; for all purposes, \$8,063,967. In all cases a good advance. During the same period over 73,000 baptisms have been performed, and 29,000 marriages solemnized. Raised for Sunday-school Aid Fund during the quadrennium, \$13,874, an increase of \$6,157. There are 3,292 churches, 1,168 other places of worship, 957 parsonages; the total value of church property, including colleges, is \$11,597,491, being an increase during the quadrennium of \$17,248. The Missionary income during the quadrennium exceeded \$875,155. Every year there has been an augmentation of funds.

Rev. J. Woodsworth, Superintendent of Missions in the North-West, read a report which gratified all hearts. He stated that in 1886 there were only eleven self-sustaining charges in that vast territory, now there are forty-six, being an increase of 318 per cent. The membership is 9,895, which is a large increase, though not more than twenty-five per cent. can be attributed to recent immigration.

The report of mission work in Japan contains many gratifying items. The membership is now 1,716, increase, 1,125; contributions, 6,491.35 yen, increase, 5,588.31; value of church property, 64,843 yen, increase, 36,758; scholars in Sunday-schools, 1,486, increase, 944.

MISSION EXTENSION.

The brethren in Japan wish to extend into provinces yet unoccupied. The General Board granted permission to take charge of Kanazawa on the west coast, also the town of Nagano. The Committee at the