

Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

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WESLEYAN METHODIST.

A deaconess is to be sent to Jaffna, in Ceylon, also to New Zealand, to train a Branch Order of Colonial Women. One of these devoted women in England, reports having made 2,320 visits, including 250 visits to sick people, in nine months. They do much to comfort the sorrowing.

The students in the various colleges hold their own annual missionary meetings, which are usually seasons of great interest. Various parts of the mission field are described, and letters are read from former students labouring in those fields, which greatly adds to the interest of the meetings.

The interest in city missions increases. Deserted churches have become important centres for all kinds of aggressive and social work. Children are cared for, and men and women, some of whom had almost lost all hope, have been brought under the influence of the Gospel, and the wants of their bodies as well as their souls have been cared for, and thus the people are helped for both worlds. At one mission in London 120 tons of coal were distributed among the poor; and 220 poor children were sent into the country for a fortnight.

In 120 years only sixteen large churches were built in London. During last year four such churches have been erected and one has been purchased from the Baptists. Sir Francis Lycett's bequest has given a great impetus to church building in the metropolis.

There are 17,000 Methodist local preachers in Great Britain, and five out of seven preaching appointments are filled by them. There are 1,000 in London alone. A gentleman said if the local preachers were to go on strike the pulpits would remain empty, but the Rev. H. P. Hughes said there were capable women in Methodism who would fill every pulpit.

The Indian famine has awakened great sympathy in England. The Methodists, having several missions in that country, have always contributed munificently in past years on similar sad visitations, and are among the most liberal in contributing of their means to relieve the necessities and distress that now obtain.

A Baptist gentleman in Yorkshire has acted a generous part, by paying the cost of a Methodist church near Skipton. He found that the village was already to a large extent in the hands of the Methodists, and one church was sufficient for the population. This Christian example might be imitated with good effect in Canada.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Methodist population in the United States is twice as large as the Catholic. Nearly one-third of all the societies of all the denominations in the United States are Methodists. There are 24,468 itinerant preachers. In the value of church property, \$132,140,179, the Methodist family stand first. There are 2,766,656 communicants, 50,000 were added last year and in the quadrennium 380,000. It is estimated that there are 164 members to every pastor.

The capital of the Book Concern—two houses, New York and Cincinnati—is about three and a half millions. During the last fifty-two years the sales aggregated \$60,678,380. During the last quadrennium the Concern paid out \$460,000 in dividends for necessitous cases among the preachers and their widows and orphans. For the past year only \$100,000 is thus appropriated, instead of \$125,000 as in the year previous.

Bishop Joyce is in China and will hold the Conferences in that Empire and Japan and Corea, and will not return home until 1893. Bishop Goodsell will also remain in Europe two years and will hold the Conferences there. Bishop Hartzell has gone to Africa, where Bishop Taylor is conducting evangelistic services, and Bishop Vincent is in South America and will remain for several months. The Episcopacy is an expensive agency, but to the Methodist Episcopal Church it is invaluable.

At a Conference held by Bishop Joyce every session was a season of spiritual blessing. On the Sabbath the power of God came down upon preacher and people. In the testimony meeting 161 persons took part, of whom fifty-nine were women. In a praise service over 100 spoke in about thirty minutes.