

TUESDAY, AUG. 13.

The Rev. Samuel Hope, Secretary of the Contingent Fund, made the following announcement of the present number of Members in the Society :—

In Great Britain, 1839	307,063
1838	206,801

Increase	10,267
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In Ireland, 1839	26,383
1838	26,244

Increase	139
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In the Foreign Stations, 1839	72,727
1838	66,808

Increase	5,919
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Exhibiting a total increase, during the year of	16,325
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Mr. Hope stated, that in addition to the actual increase, the candidates for membership, or persons "admitted on trial," in Great Britain amount to 20,105.

The President called upon the Conference devoutly to acknowledge the goodness of God, in the success which he had vouchsafed to their labours, by uniting to sing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," &c. It is a cause of gratitude, that in addition to this encouraging augmentation in the number of members, the state of the Connexional Funds exhibits also a general improvement.

The memorial of several members and friends of our societies in the Newcastle, (East and West,) Gateshead, Sunderland, North and South Shields circuit, affectionately inviting the Conference to hold its next meeting at Newcastle, which was presented on Saturday, was considered on Monday; when it was unanimously resolved that the next Conference be held at Newcastle upon Tyne, with the understanding that the hours of business be accommodated to local circumstances, by commencing the morning sittings at seven o'clock, the hour for breakfast being from nine to ten; the second sitting from ten to half past three to four, and evening sittings being avoided.

It was proposed that the Rev. John McLean be appointed by the Conference to the situation he now occupies as Chaplain to the Sheffield Proprietary School; and that not as a supernumerary, but as a preacher in active service; but the difficulties of the subject were such that the motion was withdrawn.

This decision does not of course interfere with the continual residence of Mr. McLean in the situation which he so usefully holds, in this excellent Institution.

The remainder of the day was devoted to business of a miscellaneous nature. Numerous changes were made in the stations, and different vacancies supplied. A considerable portion of time was occupied by the election of Chairmen of Districts, and the appointment of Financial Secretaries. The evening was employed in the transaction of the business of the "Preachers' Annuitant Society," instituted for the benefit of the worn-out Preachers, and of Widows of Preachers.

At the evening Sitting, as we stated in our last report, the Conference resolved itself into a Committee of the Methodist Preachers' Annuitant Society, the President in the Chair, and received the Report, and transacted the regular annual business of that Society.

The Conference then resumed its sittings, and received the Report of the General Book Committee. The following resolutions were adopted, in connection with this department of the business of the Conference.

1. That as a token of the high estimation in which the Conference holds the eminent services which he has rendered to the Connexion by his excellent and popular Centenary Volume, a copy of the Holy Scriptures, the best that can be procured, elegantly bound, and with a suitable inscription, be presented to the Ex-President, Thomas Jackson.

2. That the thanks of the Conference be presented to the Rev. George Cubitt, for the very satisfactory manner in which he has discharged the very laborious duties of Editor during the past year.

3. That the thanks of the Conference be presented to the Rev. John Farrar, for the valuable assistance he has rendered the Editor during the past year.

4. That the thanks of the Conference be tendered to the Rev. John Mason, our Book Steward, for his careful and successful management of the duties of his office during the year; to the Rev. John Brown, sen., for his services as Editor of the *Child's Magazine*; to the Rev. John Farrar, for his services as Secretary of the London Book Committee; and to the London Book Committee for their judicious management of the affairs of the book-room during the past year.

5. That the thanks of the Conference be presented to the Rev. R. Treffry, the Chairman of the Methodist Tract Committee; to the Rev. Robert Newstead, the Secretary; to those Preachers who have supplied new tracts; and to the Committee, for the vigour and efficiency with which they have discharged their duties during the past year.

6. That Mr. Wesley's abridgement of the order for the administration of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, be published in one convenient volume, distinct from the other parts of the Liturgy.

7. That an edition of the First Catechism be published, in which the answers to each question shall be put in the form of a complete proposition, embodying the entire sense of the question and answer, without any alteration of the words, and also that "a Key" shall be published, adapted to this particular edition.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 14.

The Report of the Chapel Building Committee was read and considered; and the Committee was directed to sit again to consider certain cases of chapels to be proposed to be sold. The cases, generally, are those in which the erection of new and larger Chapels has rendered the disposal of the old ones necessary; but no sale can be legally effected without the consent of the Conference.

The Report of the Chapel Loan Fund, of the General Chapel Fund, of the Centenary Fund, and of the Children's Fund, and of the Kingswood and the Woodhouse Grove Schools were read by the Secretaries of these Institutions respectively, and various Resolutions respecting each of them were adopted by the Conference, for which we must refer our readers to "the Minutes of the Conference" to be shortly published by its authority.

The Rev. J. Bowers read the resolutions of the Committee of the Theological Institution; they were adopted by the Conference, and will appear in the authorized "Minutes."

The Pastoral Address of the Conference to the societies, prepared by the Rev. Dr. Hannab, was read and unanimously approved. It is a production worthy of its esteemed and accomplished author; particularly adapted to the circumstances of the times; and admirably calculated to instruct and edify the various classes of persons who constitute the charge of the Collective Pastorate.

The proposal to appoint a Representative to attend the next General Conference of the American Connexion was considered.