

are very much in the way of the erection of churches, still parishes are being continually organized. There are now three churches in Baltimore, seven in Philadelphia, and eight in Chicago. The Annual Council was to meet in Ottawa in July. A great loss has been sustained in the sudden death of Bishop Cummins. He was at the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Baltimore in May, and delivered an admirable speech, and now he has gone to his reward. How admonitory!

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

THE Bishops have arranged their work for the current year. Bishop Haven goes to Liberia, and Bishop Andrews to Europe and India. He will first preside at the Conferences of Germany and Switzerland, and then hold the Conferences of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, and visit Bulgaria. The Bishop will next proceed to India, where he is to organize and preside over the Conference of North India, then that of South India, after which he will proceed to Italy, and preside at the annual meeting of the Italian mission which meets in Rome, March 7th, 1877. He will thus be absent on his Episcopal tour nearly a year.

Rev. W. Butler, D.D., is on a visit to the United States, and intends to spend four months on his furlough, with a view, if possible, to create greater interest in the Mission in Mexico. He intends by means of the press to operate upon the Mexican mind, and is sanguine of success. Dr. Butler had the honour of inaugurating the mission of the M. E. Church in India, which has been attended with great success from the beginning; and now he has laid the foundation of the church in Mexico, which bids fair to be equally successful. May his most sanguine hopes be realized. There are between fifty

and sixty millions of Spanish-speaking people in the world, hence whatever is done in regard to providing a wholesome literature for Mexico will largely operate upon them.

#### CONFERENCES IN ENGLAND.

THE Primitive Methodist is the first in order, which was held on the first week in June, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Rev. Alex. Clarke, D.D., from the Protestant Methodist Church in America, was present. He is the first fraternal delegate ever sent from America to our Primitive brethren. The denomination is evidently prospering, there being an increase of 7,177 members, the largest increase for many years. Dr. Samuel Antliff was present, after an absence of two years spent in visiting the missions in Canada, and the Southern world. He was received with great enthusiasm. About one in seven of the ministers are superannuated, and the payment to the Superannuated Ministers' Fund is to be raised in future to twenty-five dollars, besides five dollars additional to the Relief Fund. Increased attention is being paid to Sabbath Schools. A minister has been set apart as agent, to hold conventions and visit schools. The institutions of learning are in a prosperous condition. A much larger number of young ministers have been recommended for the Theological Institute at Sunderland than can be admitted. The Brown College at Birmingham is said to be succeeding well, and the one at York is being enlarged.

We shall refer to other Conferences in our next number. In the meantime we are glad to learn that the increase of the membership of the Wesleyan Connexion exceeds 13,000, while a plan of Lay Delegation to the Conference has been prepared which it is believed will meet with universal approval.