

to be established at Birmingham, mainly through the princely generosity of one gentleman, who has agreed to give nine thousand pounds to the object. The new institution will be known as "The Princess Alice Orphanage for the Children of Christian Parents, founded by the Wesleyan Conference in connection with the Thanksgiving Fund of 1879."

For some time past the Wesleyan Missionary Society has been spending at the rate of one thousand pounds per month more than the receipts. It is impossible to go on much longer at such a rate, and therefore a course of retrenchment has been agreed upon, to the extent of ten per cent. in some portions of the field, and of five per cent. in others. It is hoped that such retrenchment will not long be necessary. As soon as the funds will allow, the Committee have resolved to extend their operations in Africa and India, and a new mission in Japan is contemplated.

A young man who has become acquainted with the Persian language has offered himself for mission work among the Mohammedans, and is to be sent to Fyzsabad, India, and ultimately to Persia.

The third report of the Liverpool Mission, of which the Rev. Charles Garrett is Superintendent, was very cordially received by the Conference. Two ministers and six laymen have been engaged during the year, and all kinds of Home Mission work had been attempted. More than fifteen thousand visits had been paid; two thousand of which were to the abodes of sickness; thirty-seven thousand tracts had been distributed; six hundred and forty-two cottage meetings had been held; one hundred and sixty-three open-air services had been conducted; six Bible-classes are held weekly, with two hundred and fifty-five members; three hundred and five are meeting in the Missionary Society classes. The income, which exceeds six thousand dollars, has met the expenditure, so that no debt was reported.

BIBLE CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE.

The sixty-first annual Conference assembled in Truro. Sixty ministers and forty lay representatives were present. Five young men were ordained. The membership amounts to thirty thousand six hundred and eighty-eight, being a decrease of five hundred and twenty-three. The decrease is chiefly in Cornwall, the main cause of which is emigration. The profits of the Book Room amount to five hundred and eight pounds. The College at Shebbear has been enlarged at a cost of four thousand pounds. The number of students has increased to one hundred and fifty. The missionary income is reported one thousand five hundred dollars in advance.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH ASSEMBLY.

The twenty-third annual Assembly was held at Sunderland. The number of representatives was 215, of whom 85 were laymen. Fourteen young men completed their probation, and were ordained to the full work of the ministry. An effort was made to elect a layman to the office of President, but the majority of votes was in favour of the Rev. T. W. Townend, who, accordingly, took the chair. The statistical report was not so favourable as some of previous years, inasmuch as there was a decrease of members amounting to four hundred and five.

Revs. J. C. Watts and W. Cooke, D.D., were received as fraternal delegates from the Methodist New Connexion, and Revs. W. Antliff, D.D., and W. Graham from the Primitive Methodist Conference. The deputations addressed the Assembly, and responses were delivered by members of the Assembly, on the call of the President. These fraternal visitations are hailed as a good omen, and hopes are entertained that, eventually, they may lead to an amalgamation of some of the smaller sections of Methodism.

The denomination sustains a Theological College at Manchester, and a school at Harrogate, for the