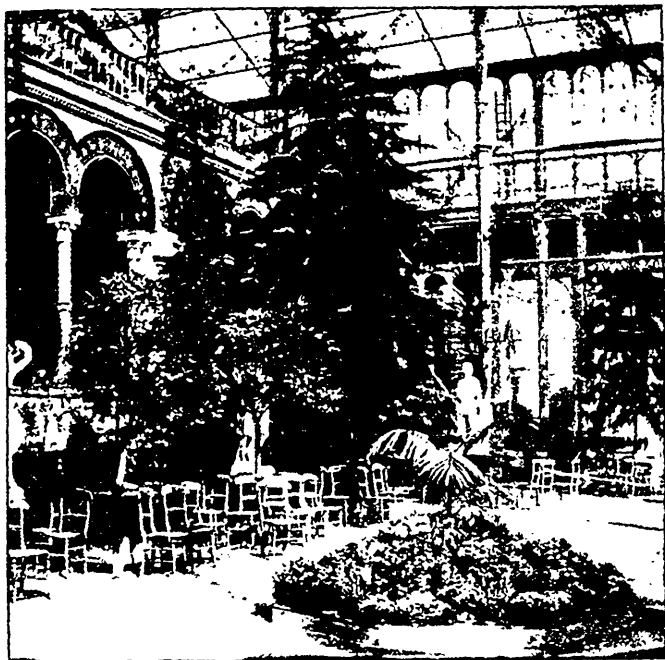


Methodist Magazine and Review.

MARCH, 1898.

THE HEART OF THE EMPIRE.



INTERIOR OF CONSERVATORY, HORTICULTURAL GARDENS, KENSINGTON.

II.

"London," says the Rev. Mark Guy Pearse, "is in many respects the capital of the world, financially, morally, politically, socially. Darwin tells us that in his first voyage as a naturalist on board the *Beagle* he found in South America a general impression amongst the Spanish settlers that London was the vast country of which England was the little and insignificant chief town. Although such a mistake could not occur to-day,

yet it is true that London is the heart of the world, the quivering, beating, pulsating heart whose throb is felt in the ends of the earth—the greatest city that the world has ever seen. Put the four great capitals of Europe together, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, and St. Petersburg, and you have little more than the population of London. Think what that means, six millions of people. Scotland and Wales together have not the population of London. Ireland has but two-thirds as many people as